

## BOFA EARNINGS SOAR UP 70%

CHRISTINA REXRODE

AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Bank of America says its second-quarter profits soared, helped by higher earnings from investment banking



A woman walks past a Bank of America ATM in downtown Charlotte, N.C., Tuesday, July 16, 2013. (AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

and cost-cutting. The results, reported Wednesday, beat analysts' expectations. The bank earned \$3.6 billion in the quarter after payments to preferred shareholders. That was up 70 percent from \$2.1 billion a year ago. Per share, that worked out to 32 cents. Analysts polled by FactSet had expected 25 cents per share. The bank's stock rose 1.7 percent in late morning trading. Bank of America, the second-biggest U.S. bank by assets, has been slimming down and cutting jobs since CEO Brian Moynihan took over at the beginning of 2010, a departure from the empire-building of his predecessors. The strategy meant to make the bank easier to manage and to escape potential extra scrutiny from regulators. In the second quarter, the bank slashed expenses about 6 percent, to \$16 billion from \$17 billion a year ago.

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Ricky Otazu, of Lodi, N.J., walks past a giant screen outside the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center announcing the week's weather forecast, in New York City. Temperatures in the New York metropolitan area are expected to stay in the 90s through Saturday. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

## SUMMER SWELTER

## Heat blankets US from Midwest to Northeast

DAVID B. CARUSO

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — From South Dakota to Massachusetts temperatures surged to potentially dangerous levels Wednesday as the largest heat wave of the summer stretched out and stagnated, with relief in many parts of the country still days away. Most states in the U.S. had at least one region where the temperature hit 90 degrees, according to the National Weather Service, though the worst heat was in the Midwest to North-

east. Humid air just made it all feel worse, with heat indexes in some places over 100.

In New York City, where it was 96 degrees, sidewalk food vendor Ahmad Qayumi said that by 11 a.m., the cramped space inside his steel-walled cart got so hot, he had to turn off his grill and coffee machine. "It was just too hot. I couldn't breathe," he said, turning away a customer who asked for a hamburger. "Just cold drinks," he said.

Amid the heat, officials in

Washington D.C.'s Maryland suburbs worked to keep a failing water main from cutting off hundreds of thousands of people, just when they needed it most. People in Prince George's County were asked not to run their faucets, water their lawns or flush toilets to keep the water system from emptying during emergency repairs. Firefighters in southern California faced brutally hot — but dangerously dry — conditions as they battled a wildfire outside Palm Springs. Temperatures could go as high as

105 and humidity could go as low as 1 percent by the afternoon, said Tina Rose, a spokesman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The fire has already consumed seven homes.

It was hot enough to buckle highway pavement in several states. Firefighters in Indianapolis evacuated 300 people from a senior living community after a power outage knocked out the air conditioning.

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# Putin does not expect Snowden case to harm US relations

D. M. HERSZENHORN

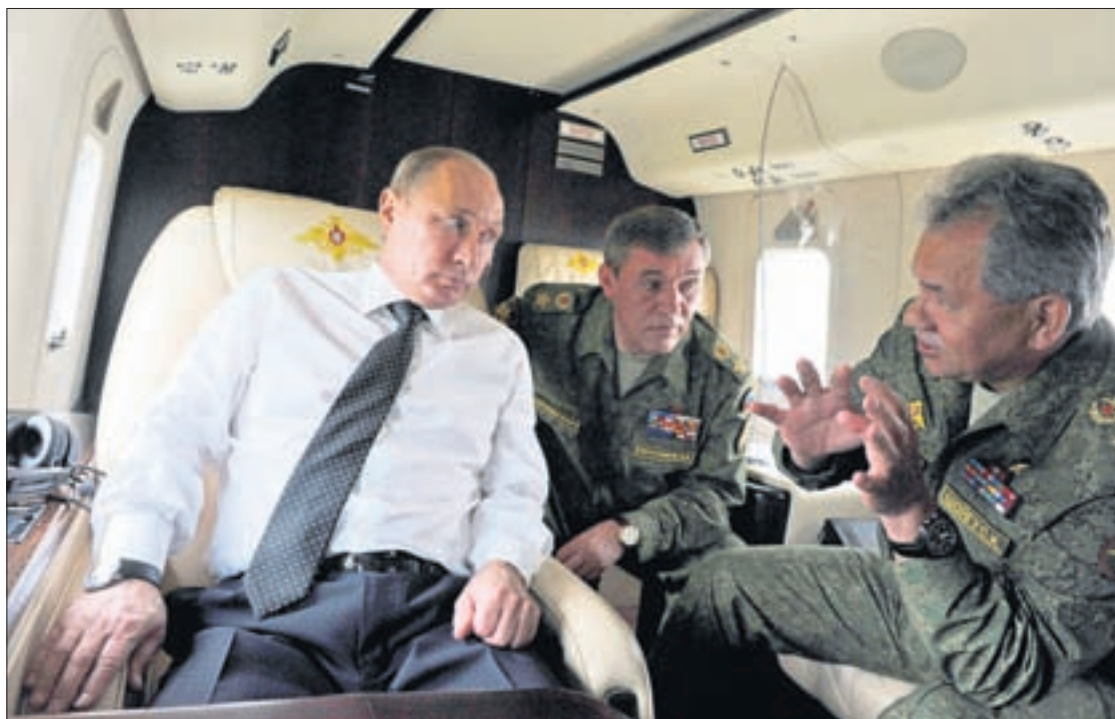
ANDREW ROTH

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**MOSCOW** - President Vladimir Putin signaled Wednesday that he expected the broader bilateral relationship with the United States to be unharmed if Russia granted asylum to Edward J. Snowden, the former intelligence contractor on the run from U.S. authorities.

In reply to a question about the implications of Snowden's case for relations with the United States, Putin effectively accused Washington of hypocrisy by providing robust support for human rights advocates in other circumstances but not in a case like Snowden's, in which the United States is being criticized.

"Bilateral relations, in my opinion, are much more important than the squab-



**President Vladimir Putin of Russia listens to his defense minister, Sergei Shoigu, right, while observing military exercises from a helicopter in the Trans-Baikal region in eastern Siberia, July 17, 2013. Putin signaled on Wednesday that he expected the bilateral relationship with the U.S. to be unharmed if Russia granted asylum to Edward Snowden.**

(Alexei Nikolsky/RIA NK via The New York Times)

bles around the activities of the security services," Putin said while on a visit

to the Trans-Baikal region in eastern Siberia to review a military training exercise,

according to a Kremlin transcript.

Putin and other promi-

nent Russian officials have made clear that they view Snowden as an advocate for human rights and a crusader for personal liberties for his leaks exposing the National Security Agency's surveillance programs.

Snowden formally applied Tuesday for temporary asylum in Russia - a request that could be granted within days and allow him to live and work here for a year or more.

Anatoly Kucherena, a lawyer and rights advocate advising Snowden in Moscow, confirmed Wednesday that Snowden may be able to leave the transit zone of Sheremetyevo Airport in Moscow and enter Russia through passport control in the next several days, once the Federal Migration Service gives him official confirmation that his application for temporary asylum is under review. He said Snowden had decided to pursue temporary asylum after realizing the United States was determined not to let him travel.

"I expected that they could persecute me, but I didn't expect it to be so crude, so out of measure," Kucherena quoted Snowden as saying.

"They have completely driven me into a corner." Snowden chose to apply for temporary asylum to circumvent the bureaucracy associated with applications for political asylum, which can take up to three months to process, Kucherena said.

If he entered Russia, Snowden would have the freedom to choose where to live and would not have to surrender himself to the Russian authorities, Kucherena added.

He said Snowden "had not excluded the possibility" of applying for Russian citizenship, but that he had no such plans currently.

Putin has said asylum for Snowden is a possibility if he stops harming America's interests.

"We warned Mr. Snowden that any of his activities that cause damage to U.S.-Russian relations are unacceptable to us," Putin said Wednesday. □

## Outspoken Assad supporter assassinated in Lebanon

ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Gunmen burst into the first floor apartment of a pro-government Syrian journalist Wednesday, killing him in a hail of nearly 30 bullets in a Hezbollah stronghold in southern Lebanon.

The pre-dawn assassination of Mohammed Darrar Jammo is the latest in a series of brazen attacks that have shown the growing vulnerability of the Shiite militant group, which has found itself increasingly on the defensive at home over its decision to back President Bashar Assad in the civil war raging next door.

Violence linked to Syria's war is increasingly washing across Lebanon, threatening to unleash large-scale fighting in a deeply fragmented country that is being constantly tested with ever deepening polarization over the conflict in Syria. In recent months, violence has become more recurrent and geographically widespread, extending to predominantly Shiite neighborhoods that had been relatively immune from attacks plaguing oth-

er, mostly border areas. On Tuesday, a roadside bomb struck a Hezbollah convoy near the Syrian border, wounding two, and last week a car bombing in south Beirut wounded 53 people in the heart of the militant group's bastion of support. Rockets

lah's moves in Syria as a declaration of war against their sect and have threatened to retaliate inside Hezbollah-controlled areas in Lebanon.

"It is still the beginning of a probably tough road ahead" for Hezbollah, said Kamel Wazne, founder

Jammo, a 44-year-old journalist and political commentator, was one of Assad's and Hezbollah's most vociferous defenders. In frequent appearances on television talk shows, he would staunchly support the Syrian regime's strong-armed response to the uprising and in at least one case shouted down opposition figures, calling them "traitors."

His hard-line stance earned him enemies among Syria's opposition, and some in the anti-Assad camp referred to Jammo as "shabih," a term used for pro-government gunmen who have been blamed for some of the worst mass killings of the civil war.

On Wednesday, he was gunned down with automatic rifles shot at close range in his apartment in the coastal town of Sarafand, a stronghold of Hezbollah, where he lived with his Lebanese wife. The perpetrators got away.

Lebanon's state news agency published a photo Wednesday of a shirtless Jammo lying on a blue sheet soaked with blood, his chest riddled with bullet wounds. □



**Fatima, right, daughter of Mohammed Darrar Jammo a Syrian political analyst and one of Syrian President Bashar Assad's strongest defenders, who was gunned down inside his home, is comforted by a relative as she mourns her father, in the southern coastal town of Sarafand, Lebanon, Wednesday, July 17, 2013.**

(AP Photo/Mohammed Zaatar)

have recently hit the Hezbollah stronghold south of the Lebanese capital.

The attacks come as no surprise. Although there have been no credible responsibility claims, Syria-based extremist Sunni groups have interpreted Hezbollah

and director of the Center for American Strategic Studies in Beirut. Such attacks, however, will not change the group's ideology or direction, but "will actually strengthen their resolve to continue what they started," he said.



## Rolling Stone Boston bombing cover met with mixed reviews



**Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev appears on the cover of the Aug. 1, 2013 issue of "Rolling Stone."**

(AP Photo/Wenner Media)

**BOSTON (AP)** — A Rolling Stone cover story on Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev isn't on the stands yet but it's already generating controversy, with at least two retailers announcing Wednesday that they will not carry the issue.

The cover of the magazine's Aug. 1 edition is a photo in which Tsarnaev looks more like one of the rock stars that usually grace it than a suspect in the April 15 bombings at the marathon finish line that killed three and wounded more than 260. A preview on the magazine's website says the story by contributing editor Janet Reitman traces how "a bright kid with a charming future became a monster."

Rolling Stone editors said in a statement that the story falls within the traditions of journalism and the magazine's commitment to serious and thoughtful coverage. "The fact that Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is young, and in the same age group as many of our readers, makes it all the more important for us to examine the complexities of this issue and gain a more complete understanding of how a tragedy like this happens," the statement said. The cover was ill-conceived at best and reaffirms a message that destruction gains fame for killers, Boston Mayor Tom Menino wrote in a letter to Rolling Stone publisher

Jann Wenner.

"Among those we lost, those who survived, and those who help carry them forward, there are artists and musicians and dancers and writers. They have dreams and plans," he wrote. "They struggle and strive. The survivors of the Boston attacks deserve Rolling Stone cover stories, although I no longer feel that Rolling Stone deserves them."

Three retailers based within 50 miles (80 kilometers) of the site of the bombings, including Rhode Island-based CVS and convenience stores Tedeschi Food Shops and Cumberland Farms in Massachusetts, said they will not carry the magazine. Walgreens, headquartered in Illinois, joined them in opting out of selling the issue.

"Tedeschi Food Shops supports the need to share the news with everyone, but cannot support actions that serve to glorify the evil actions of anyone," the chain said on its Facebook page. "Music and terrorism don't mix!"

One of the marathon runners, Lauren Gabler, who works in IT consulting in Washington and was running her fourth Boston Marathon this year, said she at first thought the Rolling Stone photo was of a model or rock star and was surprised when she realized it was Tsarnaev.

She had finished the race well ahead of when the bombs went off hours into the race but was two blocks away headed to brunch when she heard and felt the explosions. She was not hurt.

"I haven't read the article yet, and I know it will probably be quite in-depth, but my initial reaction is that the photo that's being used almost makes him look like a good guy," she said. "That's the story line, but I think the public will have trouble, like me, making the association between here's the Boston bomber and here's the guy who appears to be cool on the cover of Rolling Stone." □

## Heat blankets US from Midwest to Northeast

Continued from Front

The state of Illinois opened cooling centers. The Environmental Protection Agency said the heat was contributing to air pollution in New England.

At the World Trade Center reconstruction site in New York City, workers building a rail hub dripped under their hardhats, thick gloves and heavy-duty boots. Some wore towels around their necks to wipe away the sweat.

"We're drinking a lot of water, down under by the tracks, in and out of the sun all day — very hot," said

carpenter Elizabeth Fontanez, of the Bronx, who labored with 20 pounds of tools and safety equipment strapped to her waist. Since the heat wave began, she said she has been changing shirts several times during her shifts. Officials blamed hot weather for at least one death. A 78-year-old Alzheimer's patient died of heat exhaustion after wandering away from his northern Kentucky home Tuesday in temperatures that rose to 93 degrees. Limited relief, in the form of a cold front, was expected to begin dropping south from Canada starting Thursday, before

sweeping through the Midwest and into the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions by Saturday. That will bring lower temperatures, but also possibly severe thunderstorms, said weather service spokesman Christopher Vaccaro.

New Mexico and parts of Texas turned out to be rare outposts of cool air Wednesday — but not without trouble of their own: heavy rains prompted flood watches and warnings in some areas. More than five inches of rain fell in 24 hours in Plainview, north of Lubbock, according to the National Weather Service. □



**House painter Jesus Rubela wipes the sweat from his face while restoring a home in the South Boston neighborhood, Wednesday, July 17, 2013 in Boston. Temperatures in the Boston area reached the 90's, extending a heat wave.**

(AP Photo/Charles Krupa)

## Kerry wins Arab backing on Mideast efforts

**MATTHEW LEE**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON/JORDAN** (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry won Arab League backing Wednesday for his effort to restart Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, raising hopes that the stalled negotiations could resume.

Kerry cited significant progress in narrowing gaps between the two sides, but he declined to elaborate.

On his sixth trip to the Middle East in as many months as America's top diplomat, Kerry met in Jordan with representatives of the Arab League and nine of its members that support an Arab-Israeli peace plan proposed by Saudi Arabia.

In a statement after the meeting, the Arab delegation endorsed Kerry's initiative, saying his ideas "constitute a good ground and suitable environment for restarting the negotiations, especially the new and important political, economic and security elements." The statement was significant because it could give Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas the political cover he would need to sell a return to negotiations to a skeptical Palestinian public. Abbas was to convene a meeting Thursday of the PLO leadership to discuss the matter.

Kerry met with Abbas in Amman on Wednesday afternoon; they also had

a lengthy working dinner Monday night.

At a news conference after the Arab League and Abbas meetings, Kerry mentioned "very wide" and "very significant" gaps between Israelis and Palestinians that had prevented the two sides from restarting talks when his efforts began several months ago. "Through hard and deliberate, patient work, and most importantly through quiet work we have been able to narrow those gaps very significantly," he said. "We continue to get closer and I continue to remain hopeful that the sides will soon be able to come to sit at the same table," he said. □



## Bernanke: Congress biggest obstacle to growth

**BINYAMIN APPELBAUM**  
© 2013 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** - The Federal Reserve's chairman, Ben S. Bernanke, said Wednesday that Congress is the largest obstacle to faster economic growth, and

his prepared remarks to a congressional committee. Moreover, he said, Congress could make things worse later this year. "The risks remain that tight federal fiscal policy will restrain economic growth

Bernanke's public appearances. Unemployment remains stubbornly common, inflation has sagged to the lowest pace on record and growth is tepid. These problems are the justification for the Fed's efforts to stimulate the economy, and Bernanke said Wednesday, as he has before, that the Fed would continue those efforts until the indicators returned to more healthy levels.

In particular, he has adopted a stronger tone regarding the low pace of inflation since the last meeting of the Fed's policymaking committee in June. Prices increased by just 1 percent during the 12 months that ended in May, well below the 2 percent pace that the Fed considers most healthy. "We will act as needed to ensure that inflation moves back toward our 2 percent objective over time," he said. The central bank has said it plans to hold short-term interest rates near zero at least as long as the unemployment rate remains above 6.5 percent. □



**Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke testifies before the House Financial Services Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington, July 17, 2013.**

(Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

he warned that upcoming decisions about fiscal policy could once again undermine the nation's recovery. "The economic recovery has continued at a moderate pace in recent quarters despite the strong headwinds created by federal fiscal policy," Bernanke said in the opening line of

over the next few quarters by more than we currently expect, or that the debate concerning other fiscal policy issues, such as the status of the debt ceiling, will evolve in a way that could hamper the recovery," he said.

The shabby condition of the economy has become a familiar background for

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## Q&A ON THE NEWS

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**Q:** In Florida, Casey Anthony's trial had 12 jurors and George Zimmerman's trial had six jurors. Why the difference?

-- **Larry Milam, McDonough, Ga.**

**A:** There are six jurors in felony cases and 12 jurors for death-penalty cases in Florida, the Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel reported. Zimmerman was charged with second-degree murder in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin. Casey Anthony was on trial for first-degree murder two years ago, a death-penalty case regarding the death of her 2-year-old daughter Caylee Anthony.

**Q:** I have been unable to find out, and have not heard, if Trayvon Martin was a resident of the gated community where he was shot. If not, why was he there?

-- **Judy Michel, Alpharetta, Ga.**

**A:** Martin lived in Miami Gardens, Fla., and attended Miami's Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School, but was visiting The Retreat at Twin Lakes in Sanford, Fla., with his father, Tracy Martin. Tracy Martin's fiancée, Brandy Green, lived in the gated townhome complex, and Trayvon Martin reportedly had visited there several times. He was returning to Green's townhome after walking to a nearby convenience store when he was shot and killed on Feb. 26, 2012. Sanford is a suburb of Orlando, Fla.

**Q:** How was the wire strung across the Little Colorado River Gorge when Nik Wallenda walked across it last month?

-- **Andy Sims, Douglasville, Ga.**

**A:** The 2-inch-thick steel cable that Wallenda used to walk across the 1,400-foot gap weighs 2 1/2 pounds a foot and was too heavy to be flown across the gorge by a helicopter. A crew from O'Connell Electric, in Victor, N.Y., flew a synthetic rope from one side of the Little Colorado River Gorge to the other. They attached the cable to the rope, and using a pulley system, pulled the steel cable across the gorge, which is near the Grand Canyon.

The cable anchors were buried 150 feet in the ground. A metal basket was used to carry crew members across the wire so they could attach weights every 60 feet. Those weights helped steady the wire from winds during Wallenda's 22-minute walk on June 23. The same O'Connell Electric crew also installed the cable for Wallenda's walk across Niagara Falls in 2012.

**Q:** Did Nik Wallenda legally take his mother's name or does he use it only for performance purposes?

-- **Kathy McDonough, Peachtree Corners, Ga.**

**A:** Wallenda legally took his mother's name, according to DSW Entertainment, which manages him. Nik, who walked across the Little Colorado River Gorge, near the Grand Canyon, on June 23, is the son of Delilah Wallenda and Terry Trofer. He is the seventh generation of Wallendas, who gained fame through circus performances, balancing acts and tightrope walking.

**Q:** By what authority does Alcoa enjoy the privilege to be the first corporation to announce quarterly and annual earnings?

-- **Chuck Ellet, Dunwoody, Ga.**

**A:** Former Alcoa CEO Paul O'Neill implemented a system in the early 1990s in which the company could close its books several days "faster, fully audited," than it had previously done. "O'Neill gave then Alcoa controller Earnest Edwards license to redesign our systems ...," Monica Orbe, the company's director of corporate affairs told Q-and-A on the News in an email.

The change took a year, she added, but the "accelerated close freed up an enormous amount of analytical talent in finance." That allowed Alcoa to begin the quarterly earnings season, starting in 1996, according to the company's annual report that year. Alcoa is one of 30 companies in the Dow Jones Industrial Average. □



# Senate panel questions nominee for U.N. ambassador



Samantha Power, President Barack Obama's nominee for U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, testifies at her confirmation hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in the Capitol Building in Washington, July 17, 2013. Power received a mostly cordial reception from senators Wednesday, though Republicans pressed her to explain past comments on Israel and Palestine. (Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

Republicans pressed her to explain past comments on Israel and Palestine and certain "crimes" she once said had been committed by the United States.

Power, 42, a former journalist and national security specialist who has written extensively about genocide and humanitarian intervention, appeared to face no serious obstacles to confirmation during the hearing by the Foreign Relations Committee.

If confirmed by the committee and then the full Senate, Power would succeed Susan E. Rice, whom President Barack Obama has named as his new national security adviser.

Several key Republican senators, including Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, the ranking member of the committee, and Sen. John McCain of Arizona, offered their support.

"I know you're going to be received very well," Corker said at the outset of the hearing.

Still, she faced some difficult questions from Republicans, perhaps most no-

tably Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, over controversial remarks and positions she has taken in the past.

His first question was about a 2002 interview in which she suggested that the United States might have to spend billions of dollars to support a "mammoth protection force" and "a meaningful military presence" if Palestinian statehood were ever to be realized.

As she has before, Power distanced herself from the remarks.

"I gave a long, rambling and remarkably incoherent response to a hypothetical question that I should never have answered," she said.

Power vowed to fight within the United Nations against what she called "unacceptable bias and attacks against the state of Israel."

Power also appeared uneasy, if unsurprised, when Rubio asked her about a 2003 article on foreign policy in which she argued for "a historical reckoning with crimes committed, sponsored, or permitted by the United States." □

## US court ruling favors anti-terror law tactics

TOM HAYS  
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal appeals court has reversed a judge's decision barring enforcement of a law that permits the indefinite detention of people suspected of supporting terrorists.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued the ruling Wednesday in a lawsuit challenging the law that allows the U.S. government to detain anyone who "substantially" or "directly" provides "support" to radical forces, such as al-Qaida or the Taliban. The court found that the plaintiffs had no standing to bring the case in the first place. In response to the decision, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, Bruce Afran, accused the appeals court of failing to

address the merits of the case by instead reversing the lower court's decision on technical grounds. A spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Manhattan had no comment. The decision sent the case back to the district court to let the judge consider further proceedings. But Afran said it was unclear whether that would happen.

In a ruling last year, U.S. District Judge Katherine Forrest found that the law was "unconstitutionally overbroad."

She urged Congress to make it more specific so journalists, scholars, political activists and others would not worry that contacting enemies of the United States would put them in jeopardy of indefinite incarceration. □

BRIAN KNOWLTON

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WASHINGTON - Samantha Power received a mostly cordial reception Wednesday from senators weighing her nomination as the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, although

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## Congress sees heated confrontation over NSA spying



Deputy Attorney General James Cole, left, speaks with Robert S. Litt, general counsel in the Office of Director of National Intelligence before the start of a House Judiciary Committee hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, on Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

PETE YOST  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a heated confrontation over

domestic spying, members of Congress said Wednesday they never intended to allow the National Se-

curity Agency to build a database of every phone call in America. And they threatened to curtail the

government's surveillance authority.

Top Obama administration officials countered that the once-secret program was legal and necessary to keep America safe. And they left open the possibility that they could build similar databases of people's credit card transactions, hotel records and Internet searches.

The clash undercut President Barack Obama's assurances that Congress had fully understood the dramatic expansion of government power it authorized repeatedly over the past decade.

The House Judiciary Committee hearing also represented perhaps the most public, substantive congressional debate on surveillance powers since the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Previous debates have been largely theoretical and legalistic, with officials in the

Bush and Obama administrations keeping the details hidden behind the cloak of classified information.

That changed last month when former government contractor Edward Snowden leaked documents to the Guardian newspaper revealing that the NSA collects every American's phone records, knowing that the overwhelming majority of people have no ties to terrorism.

Civil rights groups have warned for years that the government would use the USA Patriot Act to conduct such wholesale data collection. The government denied it.

The Obama administration says it needs a library of everyone's phone records so that when it finds a suspected terrorist, it can search its archives for the suspect's calling habits. The administration says the database was authorized under a provision in the Patriot Act that Congress hurriedly passed after Sept. 11, 2001 attacks against the U.S. and reauthorized in 2005 and 2010.

The sponsor of that bill, Rep. James Sensenbrenner, a Republican, said Wednesday that Congress meant only to allow seizures directly relevant to national security investigations. No one expected the government to obtain every phone record and store them in a huge database to search later.

As Deputy Attorney General James Cole explained why that was necessary, Sensenbrenner cut him off and reminded him that his surveillance authority expires in 2015. □

## Chaos in Hollywood over Zimmerman verdict

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Packs of young people rampaged through Hollywood, knocked down people and stole cellphones and other items before a police sweep halted the marauding and arrested a dozen people, police said Wednesday.

Calls began coming in at around 8:30 p.m. Tuesday that youths — possibly organized through social media — were robbing people and stealing T-shirts and other goods from businesses, mainly on Hollywood Boulevard, Lt. Ray Valois said.

Fifteen to 20 young men and women were "attacking victims and tak-

ing property," he said. "Some people may have been knocked down or punched."

However, no serious injuries were reported.

As many as 40 people may have been involved, splitting into smaller groups and reforming as they looted people nearby, Valois said. Cmdr. Andrew Smith said it was believed that the youths took advantage of a redeployment of police to Los Angeles' Crenshaw District, where violence had broken out the previous night over the acquittal of a Florida neighborhood watchman, George Zimmerman, in the shooting death of an unarmed

black teenager, Trayvon Martin.

But was unclear whether the Hollywood marauders were inspired by either the Crenshaw violence or anger at the Zimmerman verdict. Fourteen people were arrested Monday night in the Crenshaw District after about 150 people ran through the streets, jumped on cars, tried to break store windows and punched bystanders.

Two protests Tuesday night in Crenshaw and downtown were peaceful.

Surveillance video aired on television showed youths roaming along the famed Hollywood Walk of Fame.

"None of these individu-

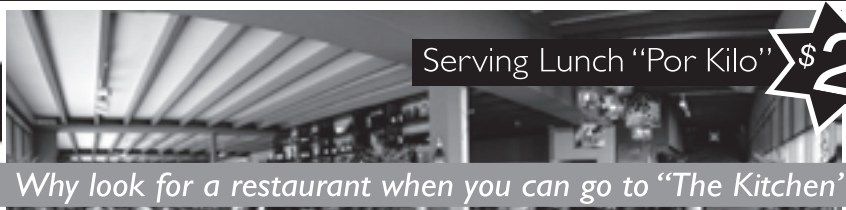
als was protesting, there was no physical evidence of that," Valois said. "They may be acting out."

Several people told journalists that they were surrounded by groups of youths that forced them to hand over cellphones, a watch and other items.

"I was filming celebrities coming out and all of a sudden I was approached by this group of people and one got my phone," Lori Aceves told KNBC-TV. "And all I know is this lady next to me — I have no idea who she was — but she grabbed me by the arm and she tucked me in and she moved me to a different store." □

# THE KITCHEN

wood fired grill

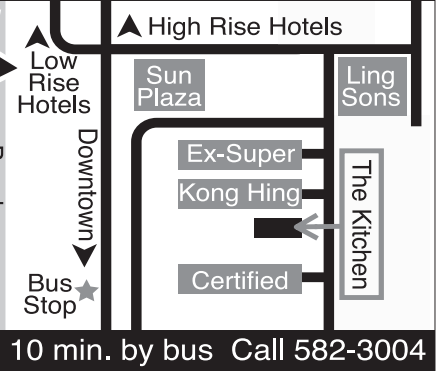


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### US Financial Front:

## Lew says delays on rules may mean big bank risk

**MARCY GORDON**  
AP Business Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew says delays in writing rules to put the 2010 financial overhaul law into effect have raised the prospect that big banks could still threaten the financial system's stability.

Lew said that means policymakers may have to consider new approaches. His comments came Wednesday at a conference organized by the cable TV network CNBC.

In his address to the conference, Lew stressed that the legislation provided strong safeguards for consumers and investors, and, at least on paper, ended the idea that any financial firm is too big not to be rescued by the government.

"Banking will always involve some degree of risk-taking, and the goal is not to eliminate all risk in banking," he said. "But now if a financial firm fails, taxpayers will not have to bear the cost of that failure."

However, when asked after the speech about the effectiveness of the new rules,

Lew said delaying implementation or weakening them could still hamper the effort to prevent another financial crisis.

If rules putting the law in place aren't sufficient by year's end to reduce the risk of big banks failing and endangering the financial system, Lew said, "We're going to have to look at other options." Lew didn't specify what the options might be.

Next week marks the third anniversary of the overhaul law, enacted in response to the crisis, which is intended to prevent an-

other meltdown and a federal bailout of banks. Amid lobbying by the Wall Street banks and other business interests, regulators have weakened some of the rules as they have drafted them.

Fewer than half the rules to be written by the bank and securities-market regulators have been formally adopted.

Hundreds of U.S. banks, including the country's biggest banks, received taxpayer bailouts during the financial crisis that struck in 2008 and triggered the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Lew said Wednesday the



Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew arrives in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington. Lew said Wednesday that delays in writing rules to put the 2010 financial overhaul law into effect have raised the prospect that big banks could still threaten the financial system's stability. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

Obama administration, like a group of senators who recently proposed legislation that would break up banks, wants to ensure that risky banks can't bring down the system. He didn't specifically endorse the legislation.

The legislation proposed by a bipartisan group of senators would force banks to split off their conventional lending and deposit-taking into separate companies from investment banking and other riskier activities.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, testifying on Fed interest-rate policy to a House committee Wednesday, was asked about the regulation issue. □

### Fed:

## Growth improves moderately throughout US

**C. S. RUGABER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. economy grew throughout the country from late May through early July, bolstered by the housing recovery, consumers and more factory output.

A Federal Reserve survey released Wednesday showed eleven of the Fed banking districts reported "modest to moderate" growth, while Dallas reported "strong" growth for the second straight survey.

Housing construction and home prices improved, while consumer spending increased in most districts, fueled by rising car and truck sales. The housing recovery is also driving more production of lumber, materials and construction equipment.

The report says hiring held steady or increased in most districts. But employers in

some districts were reluctant to hire permanent or full-time workers.

Five districts reported strong auto sales, up from just three in the previous report. Retail sales rose in nearly all districts except for New York.

The Beige Book survey is based on anecdotal reports from businesses. The latest report painted an optimistic picture of an economy growing at a steady pace. Job gains have picked up this year, bolstering incomes and enabling consumers to spend more.

Employers have added an average of 202,000 jobs a month this year, up from about 180,000 a month in the previous six months.

Still, growth has been weak. Most economists expect growth slowed in the April-June quarter to an annual rate of 1 percent or less, down from a tepid 1.8

percent rate at the start of the year. That would mark the third straight quarter of growth below 2 percent. Many economists are hopeful that growth will rebound in the second half of the year.

Recent reports, however, have painted more of a mixed picture. Americans bought more on cars, clothes and furniture in June, but cut back retail spending almost everywhere else. Excluding volatile purchases of autos, gas and building materials, retail sales rose at the slowest pace since January.

Factory output grew in June for the second straight month, a separate Fed report said, a sign manufacturers are recovering from a slow start to the year.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke told Congress Wednesday that the economy has improved since the Fed launched its bond-buying

program in September. He reiterated that Fed policymakers may decide to scale back the purchases later this year, if the improvement continues.

But he also said the Fed wants to see substantial progress in the job market before that happens.

The information in the Beige Book will be discussed along with other economic data during the Fed's policy meeting on July 30-31. It is unlikely to accelerate the Fed's timetable for slowing its stimulus, economists said.

One of the strongest parts of the economy this year has been housing. Home sales and prices began recovering a year ago and sales of previously occupied homes topped 5 million in May for the first time in 3½ years. Prices are rising at the fastest pace since housing bubble burst seven years ago. □





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## Egypt: Top EU diplomat calls for inclusive politics

BY SARAH EL DEEB  
Associated Press  
CAIRO (AP) — The European Union's top foreign policy official urged Egypt's interim leaders and supporters of the ousted Islamist president Wednesday to cooperate in a political process that moves the country toward democracy. But Mohammed Morsi's backers expanded their protests in Cairo, denouncing the new government and casting doubt on

Catherine Ashton was the second foreign dignitary to visit Egypt this week, and the first to meet with Muslim Brotherhood officials since the July 3 coup, which followed mass protests calling for Morsi to step down. Ashton also met with interim President Adly Mansour, his vice president Mohammed ElBaradei, army chief Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi and members of Tamarod, or Rebel, the movement that sparked the huge dem-

so." She was the second foreign official bearing that message this week. U.S. Deputy Secretary of State William Burns was in Cairo on Monday. He met with Mansour and el-Sissi, but the State Department said he spoke to a Muslim Brotherhood official only on the telephone. Ashton also said she has asked for the release of Morsi, who has been held in an undisclosed military



Interim President Adly Mansour, center, meets with European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, left, and Egyptian Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy, second right, in Cairo, Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

(AP Photo/Egyptian Presidency)

the prospects for reconciliation. The Muslim Brotherhood, from which Morsi hails, has rejected the new political order and demanded the reinstatement of Egypt's first democratically elected president two weeks after he was toppled by the military. There was no sign that protests were dying down, a day after the interim president swore in a 34-member Cabinet that included several prominent figures from liberal and secular factions as well as officials who served under the regime of ousted President Hosni Mubarak — but no Islamists. EU foreign policy chief

onstrations against Morsi's year-old rule. Ashton said she stressed in all her meetings the need for a political process that includes all sides, but acknowledged that the players are deeply divided. "It is important not just for (the Brotherhood's political party) but for all those involved in the future of the country to know that the future really is about ensuring that everybody can be engaged," Ashton told reporters at the end of her one-day visit to Cairo. "Inclusivity means that you have to move forward and you have to find a way that those who wish to participate in the future can do

facility since his ouster. "I was assured that he is well. I would have liked to have seen him and I was assured that he is being well cared for," she said. Morsi has not been charged with any crimes, although five of the top Muslim Brotherhood leaders have been detained and accused, among other things, of inciting violence. The group's television station has been shut down since July 3. On Wednesday, a government official said more than 20 diplomatic passports of Morsi, his aides and family have been revoked because they no longer hold official positions. □

## Britain legalizes same-sex marriage

ANGELA CHARLTON  
GREGORY KATZ  
Associated Press  
LONDON (AP) — The French like to make fun of the British, joking about their repressed ways in matters of the heart. But when it came time to debate same-sex marriage, it was France that betrayed a deep conservative streak in sometimes violent protests — while the British showed themselves to be modern and tolerant. With little fanfare or controversy, Britain announced Wednesday that Queen Elizabeth II — hardly a social radical — had signed into law a bill legalizing same-sex marriages in England and Wales. France has also legalized gay marriages, but only after a series of gigantic protests attracting families from the traditional heartland that revealed a deeply split society. Official word that the queen had approved the bill drew cheers in the usually sedate House of Commons.

"This is a historic moment that will resonate in many people's lives," Equalities Minister Maria Miller said in a statement. "I am proud that we have made it happen and I look forward to the first same sex wedding by next summer." There were British political figures and religious leaders vehemently opposed to gay marriage but the opposition never reached a fever pitch, in part because the same-sex marriage bill had broad public support and the backing of the leaders of the three major political parties. In fact, it was Prime Minister David Cameron, leader of

the tradition-minded Conservatives, who proposed the legislation in the first place. The public seemed to take it for granted that gay marriage should be a part of British life. It was perhaps a sign of how Britain has evolved in past decades into a much more cosmopolitan nation than its starchy, traditionalist image would suggest. "The opposition seemed restricted to a very small number of people very vigorous in their views," said Steven Fielding, a political scientist at the University of Nottingham. "It was restricted to the back benchers of the Conservative Party. It wasn't shared across the political spectrum. It was an issue whose time had come. To oppose it seemed slightly strange." The law was also written in a way that allowed the Church of England — which is opposed — to sidestep the controversy since it is explicitly barred from conducting same-sex marriages. The picture was completely different in France. Few people had expected legalizing gay marriage to face much of a hurdle. French polls had shown for more than a decade that the concept enjoyed majority public support, and Paris has had a gay mayor for years. And to outsiders, of course, France is seen as the land of "anything goes" when it comes to sex — from the Marquis de Sade to author Colette to disgraced French politician Dominique Strauss-Kahn, notorious for his libertine sex parties. □



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## Pope Francis declines popemobile for upcoming Rio trip

NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis is forgoing the bulletproof popemobile for his upcoming trip to Brazil for the Catholic Church's youth festival, further evidence that he has no qualms about tweaking the Vatican's security operations for the sake of getting closer to the faithful.

The Vatican said Wednesday that Francis will use the same open-topped car he uses for zooming around St. Peter's Square to move about Rio de Janeiro, where he arrives July 22 for the week-long World Youth Day fest. He'll use a closed car for longer-distance drives, but the open-topped car for milling about the crowds.



**Pope Francis waves to faithful upon his arrival at the Pontiff's residence of Castel Gandolfo, near Rome. The Vatican has confirmed that Pope Francis will forgo the bulletproof popemobile for his upcoming trip to Brazil for the Catholic Church's youth festival.**

In recent times, popes have always used the protected popemobile, with its raised seat and panoramic, bulletproof windows, for forays outside Rome. Francis, however, ended that

(AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

tradition when he used an open-topped Fiat during his recent visit to the Italian island of Lampedusa.

Francis has made a point of changing Vatican protocol, especially where it

concerns the trappings of the papacy and his ability to connect with ordinary people. He eschewed Vatican security on his first outing as pope when he visited a Roman basilica the day after his election, and he has chosen to live in the Vatican hotel rather than the fancy, enclosed Apostolic Palace, to be with more regular folk.

The Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lombardi announced the change Wednesday during a briefing about the pope's July 22-28 trip, saying it was "clearly" Francis' personal decision to leave the popemobile behind.

"It's in continuity with what he does here," Lombardi said. "He feels good about being in close communi-

cation with the environs around him, and this car lets him get on and off."

Lombardi said he didn't know if Brazilian security had had to change course as a result of Francis' decision. The pope's personal security detail will do as they do while he is in St. Peter's, walking alongside the car, he said. Francis has a busy schedule in Brazil, including a one-day trip to the popular Marian shrine in Aparecida, between Rio and Sao Paulo, a visit with patients at a hospital for the poor and another with juvenile offenders. A highlight will be a walk-through of one of Rio's slums, or favelas, where Francis is expected to stop inside one home and chat with a family, Lombardi said. □

## Al-Qaida branch confirms its No. 2 killed in Yemen

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — The Yemen-based branch of al-Qaida confirmed on Wednesday that the group's No. 2 figure, a former Guantanamo Bay prisoner, was killed in a U.S. drone strike.

The announcement, posted on militant websites, gave no date for the death of Saudi-born Saeed al-Shihri.

The confirmation was significant, however, because al-Shihri had twice before been reported dead but the terror group later denied those reports.

His killing is considered a major blow to the Yemen-based al-Qaida branch, known as Al-Qaida in The Arabian Peninsula.

Yemeni security officials said al-Shihri died of serious injuries sustained when a drone strike targeted him in November last year.

Al-Shihri had survived an

earlier drone attack, in September 2012, the officials added, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to media.

Wednesday's announcement came in a video purporting to show the group's chief theologian, Ibrahim al-Robaish, eulogizing al-Shihri.

The authenticity of the video, which was first reported by the U.S. monitoring service SITE, could not be independently confirmed but it appeared on militant websites commonly used by al-Qaida.

Al-Shihri, also known as Abu Sufyan al-Azdi, fought in Afghanistan and spent six years in Guantanamo. He was returned to Saudi Arabia in late 2007 and later fled to Yemen to join the al-Qaida branch there.

In one of his last videos, which appeared on the Internet in April, al-Shihri harshly criticized Yemen's

neighbor to the north, Saudi Arabia, for its policy of allowing the United States to launch deadly drone strikes from bases in the kingdom. Washington considers the

Yemen-based al-Qaida to be the most dangerous offshoot of the terror network after it was linked to several attempted attacks on U.S. targets, including the foiled

Christmas Day 2009 bombing of an airliner over Detroit and explosives-laden parcels intercepted the following year aboard cargo flights. □

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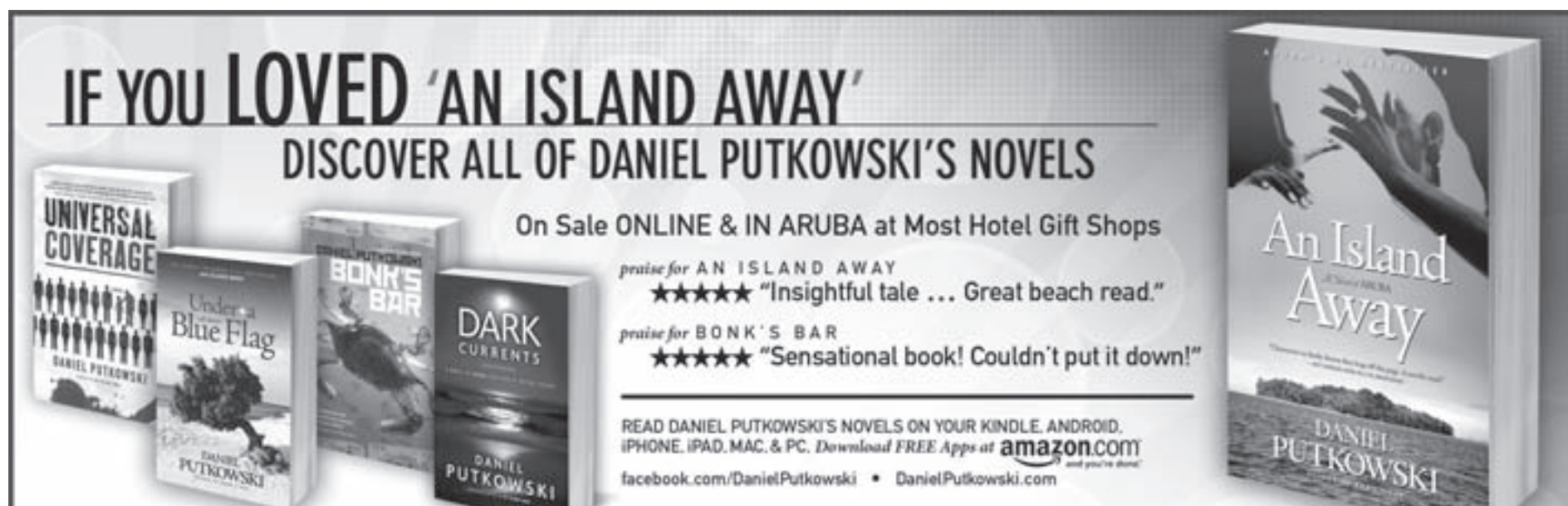
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## Mexico:

# Nuevo Laredo tense following arrest

C. SHERMAN  
Associated Press

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico (AP) — The capture of the homegrown boss of Mexico's most feared drug cartel wasn't discussed publicly by residents of this northern border city and not a word appeared in the local newspapers a day after the arrest of the Zetas' Miguel Angel Trevino Morales.

After all, this is a town where bodies have swung from a local overpass — nine on one night last year.

Decapitated heads frequently have been dropped along roadsides, and grenades have been tossed in the vicinity of anyone who dared protest, all in an effort to secure Trevino Morales' reign.

In low voices and away from prying eyes, residents said Tuesday they were anxiously awaiting a violent response. Trevino Morales was a local thug who had fought ferociously to control this valuable route for trafficking drugs and migrants, and residents believe his takedown is unlikely to pass unanswered.

Mexican Marines nabbed Trevino Morales and two others on a dirt road southwest of the city Monday without a shot being fired. On Tuesday, residents held their tongues and waited. Soldiers stood guard behind stacked sandbags, while Marines, state and federal police cruised the city of 350,000 residents in highly visible armed convoys.

"We're waiting," said Antonio Ybarra Martinez. The 54-year-old wasn't talking about passing the time with his two friends in the slim shade of a downtown parking lot. He meant waiting for bloodshed.

"Truth is, it's a little tense,"

could push for a response. Nuevo Laredo has the feel of a border city where commerce rules.

The downtown is a grid of congested narrow streets filled with businesses. Street performers jostle with windshield cleaners for drivers'



**This two picture combo shows traffic crossing over and under a major overpass in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, Tuesday, July 16, 2013, top, and a May 4, 2012 file photo, of the same overpass with the bodies of nine unidentified people hanging from the bridge attributed to the Zetas, whose homegrown leader was captured Monday, July 15, 2013.**

(AP Photo/Chris Sherman)

chimed in his friend, who only gave his name as Sergio. "There could be reprisals." Sergio, 44, who described himself as a laborer, noted that Trevino Morales was from Nuevo Laredo and has family that

attention at the busiest intersections.

Meanwhile tractor-trailers filled with products for the U.S. market rumble along wide roads on the perimeter toward the international bridges.

## LATIN AMERICAN BRIEFS

### Indians slam Argentina's Chevron deal

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Argentina's long-sought deal with Chevron Corp. to exploit shale reserves in Patagonia is being slammed by Mapuche Indians, human rights activists, environmentalists and leftists as a sellout to the United States that could drain and pollute the nation's resources. The \$1.5 billion joint venture with Chevron is the best foreign investment that Argentina could attract so far after expropriating control of the nation's YPF oil company from Spanish control last year, a move that has Grupo Repsol demanding \$10 billion in compensation and threatening to sue any oil company that takes over the wells. President Cristina Fernandez decreed that the deal would promote energy sovereignty, but many of her one-time allies said Wednesday that it does just the opposite.

### 2nd Ecuador volcano steps up eruption

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Scientists say lava flow and ash and gas emissions have intensified at a second Ecuadorian volcano, Reventador, as the full-bore eruption of the Tungurahua cone continues. Ecuador's Geophysics Institute says the lava flow on Reventador's southern flank has increased since Saturday but poses no immediate threat to villagers in the region 60 miles (100 kilometers) east of the capital, Quito.

The 11,400-foot (3,475-meter) volcano is nearly three times that distance from Tungurahua to the southwest. It has been roaring since Sunday, when 200 people were evacuated from its flanks and one pyroclastic blast was heard as far away as the coastal city of Guayaquil. Tungurahua is 16,480 feet (5,023 meters) high and has been active since 1999. Reventador had its last big eruption in November 2002.

### Fernandez: Television must be dubbed

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Argentina's president has decreed that foreign-language shows, movies and even commercials shown on Argentine television must be dubbed in the kind of Spanish that her countrymen speak daily, or in one of the country's indigenous languages. Her decree published Wednesday says that with certain exceptions, any television station or content provider that doesn't comply will be fined under rules to be developed within 60 days, and that any fines will go to a fund supporting Argentine filmmaking.

The decree adds regulations to a never-enforced 1988 law that aims to defend Argentina's culture and national identity by giving the dubbing work to actors "who possess the phonetic characteristics" of Argentines. President Cristina Fernandez' signed decree calls it a "neutral Spanish" that will guarantee that shows are understood anywhere in Spanish-speaking America.



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## Israeli PM Netanyahu calls European leaders after ban

TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's premier talked with a series of European leaders Wednesday, outlining his strong objections to a European funding ban on Israeli institutions operating in occupied territories, officials said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu discussed the measure with the President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso as well as the leaders of France, Greece, Malta and Austria, the officials said.

They said Netanyahu told the leaders, "There are more urgent and pressing issues in the Middle East that should be dealt with first," like the conflict in Syria and Iran's nuclear program.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the content of the conversations

with reporters.

Israeli media reported that Netanyahu urged the leaders to delay the ban's enforcement.

The EU decision, announced on Tuesday, marked a new international show of displeasure with Israeli settlements built on lands captured in the 1967 Mideast war.

The Palestinians claim some of those territories — the West Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem — for their hoped-for state. The announcement sparked a round of condemnations from Israeli leaders, including Netanyahu, who said Israel would not accept "external edicts" about its borders.

The officials also said Netanyahu spoke to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry about the EU decision, saying it harms Kerry's efforts to restart negotiations. Israel's chief peace negotiator, Justice Minister Tzipi Livni,



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends a cabinet meeting in his Jerusalem office in Israel. Netanyahu talked with EU leaders Wednesday, outlining objections to a European funding ban on Israeli institutions operating in occupied territories.

(AP Photo/Abir Sultan)

met Wednesday with the European Union envoy for Mideast peace, Andreas

Reinicke, and told him that postponing the ban's enforcement would help re-

launch peace talks, which stalled nearly five years ago. □

## India: 22 children die from poisoned lunches at school

GARDINER HARRIS

HARI KUMAR

© 2013 New York Times

NEW DELHI - Twenty-two children died and more than two dozen others were hospitalized Tuesday after eating a free lunch believed to have been prepared with cooking oil stored in an insecticide container at a primary school in the eastern state of Bihar, officials said.

The children complained that the food - rice, beans and potato curry - tasted odd and soon suffered severe vomiting and diarrhea, officials said. The school's cook tasted the food and promptly fell ill

as well, according to P. K. Shahi, minister of human resource development in Bihar. School meal programs in India, like many government programs, are rife with fraud. Corruption has long been endemic in Bihar, one of India's poorest states. After seeing the children get sick, the school's teachers and administrators fled the school, according to Dr. Shambhu Nath Singh, the deputy superintendent of the government hospital in Bihar's Saran District. Parents took the children to the hospital. Seven were dead on arrival and seven others died soon after, Singh said. □

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## North Korea arms seizure could hurt US-Cuba detente

M. WEISSENSTEIN  
PETER ORSI

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba's admission that it was secretly sending aging weapons systems to North Korea has turned the global spotlight on a little-known link in a secretive network of rusting freighters and charter jets that moves weapons to and from North Korea despite U.N. sanctions.

The revelation that Cuba was shipping the arms, purportedly to be repaired and returned, is certain to jeopardize slowly warming ties between the U.S. and Havana, although the extent of the damage remains uncertain. Experts said Cuba's participation in the clandestine arms network was a puzzling move that promised little military payoff for the risk to detente with Washington.

The aging armaments, including radar system parts, missiles, and even two jet fighters, were discovered Monday buried beneath thousands of tons of raw Cuban brown sugar piled onto a North Korean freighter that was seized by Panama as it headed

for home through the Panama Canal. North Korea is barred by the U.N. from buying or selling arms, missiles or components, but for years U.N. and independent arms monitors have discovered North Korean weaponry headed to Iran, Syria and a host of nations in Africa and Asia. North Korea also has a thriving sideline in repairing aging Warsaw Pact gear, often in exchange for badly needed commodities, such as Burmese rice.

"They don't know how to grow rice, but they know how to repair radars," said Daryl Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control Association, a private group dedicated to promoting arms control.

"The North Koreans are taking desperate measures to pursue that work. Despite the best efforts of the international community to cut off arms transfers to and from North Korea, it will continue in some form."

The surprise for many observers was that the latest shipment of arms headed to North Korea comes from Cuba, which acknowledged late Tuesday that

it was shipping two anti-aircraft missile systems, nine missiles, two Mig-21 fighter jets and 15 jet engines to be repaired there.

The discovery was expected to trigger an investigation by the U.N. Security Council committee that monitors the sanctions

be a violation of the sanctions regime. "If Cuba wanted to send the weapons for repairs and have them returned, it would have needed to get a waiver from the Security Council committee monitoring the North Korea sanctions. A spokesman for Luxem-



In the photo, a high-level North Korean military delegation departs Pyongyang to visit Cuba and meet with island counterparts in early July.

(AP Photo/Kim Kwang Hyon)

against North Korea, and Panamanian officials said U.N. investigators were expected in Panama on Thursday. Britain's U.N. Ambassador, Mark Lyall Grant, said that "any weapons transfers, for whatever reason, to North Korea would

be a violation of the sanctions regime. "If Cuba wanted to send the weapons for repairs and have them returned, it would have needed to get a waiver from the Security Council committee monitoring the North Korea sanctions. A spokesman for Luxem-

bourg's U.N. Mission, which chairs the North Korea sanctions committee, told The Associated Press that there had been no such request from Cuba.

Foreign Relations Committee, said the incident "almost certainly violated" U.N. sanctions and urged the Obama administration to bring it to the Security Council for review.

"Weapons transfers from one communist regime to another hidden under sacks of sugar are not accidental occurrences," Menendez said Wednesday, adding that it "reinforces the necessity that Cuba remain on the State Department's list of countries that sponsor state terrorism." Panama's seizure of the freighter, which saw its North Korean captain try to commit suicide and 35 crewmen arrested after resisting police efforts to intercept the ship in Panamanian waters, was badly timed for officials working on baby steps toward a limited detente between the U.S. and Cuba.

High-ranking Cubans were in Washington on Wednesday for migration talks that are supposed to be held every six months but have been on ice since January 2011, as the nations remain at odds on issues like Cuba's imprisonment of U.S. government subcontractor Alan Gross.

"I don't think you can sugarcoat this," said Ted Piccone, senior fellow and deputy director for foreign policy at the Washington-based Brookings Institution. "You have a suspicious cargo of weapons going to a heavily sanctioned state, and this is bad for U.S.-Cuba relations. The timing, the same week as the restart of long postponed migration talks, couldn't be worse." In the past those discussions have provided a rare opportunity to discuss other issues informally in one of the few open channels of dialogue between the countries. □

## Groups condemn threats against Haiti's gay society

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Watchdog groups in Haiti on Wednesday condemned what they say has been a series of threats targeting the Caribbean nation's small gay community. Attorney Mario Joseph and gay rights advocate Charlotte Jeudy told a news conference that people who are gay or lesbian should be able to live freely without being harassed or attacked.

Jeudy, president of a gay rights group named Kouraj, Haitian Creole for courage,

said he recently received several threats, including a call from someone who told him to shut his mouth, or have it shut for him. The same caller threatened to burn down his home and office.

The news conference came three weeks after several Protestant leaders from a group calling itself the Haitian Coalition of Religious and Moral Organizations said on national television that they disagreed with recent laws in other countries supporting gay

marriage. The group announced it would hold an anti-gay demonstration in the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince on Friday, a gathering that worries rights leaders.

"Haitian society needs tolerance," said Joseph, the lawyer. "Whatever sexual orientation you are, you have rights."

Haiti's small gay and lesbian community has long remained largely underground because of a strong social stigma that sparks fears of physical violence

and loss of employment.

Gay rights groups in Haiti say that members of the country's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community often don't report rights violations to authorities out of fear of reprisal.

Those people also have suffered overt discrimination from law enforcement and judicial authorities, particularly in Port-au-Prince, the U.S. State Department said in a 2012 report on human rights in Haiti. □





At the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort:

## Actress Virginia Madsen and husband Nick Holmes enjoy Local Hospitality



Pictured here images taken in the actress's suite at the resort. Madsen was impressed with the level of service excellence, and decided to invite staff members who made her visit special, into her suite so that she could meet them on a personal level, and thank them for the hospitality extended, over delicious drinks and hors d'oeuvres.



Madsen also met Front Office Story Teller Catherine who mesmerized her with the epic battle tale between Captain Phoenix and the Divi Dutchmen! Also in attendance at the gathering, film star Maria Conchita Alonso, who participated in the Aruba Film Festival, and is seen here with resort chief engineer Daniel Aguirre. □



**PALM BEACH** - While on the island for the IV Annual Aruba International Film Festival actress Virginia Madsen and her husband Nick Holmes stayed at the Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort. The actress attended the red carpet reception of the closing night film, Hot Flashes, in which she has a starring role as Clementine Winks, participating

in a fund-raising series of basketball games in which a group of women-of-a-certain-age challenges the Texas State High School Girls Champions, and wins. The international movie premier in Aruba was very well received and Madsen reported enjoying her second visit here and the friendships she forged with staff members of the resort where she stayed.





## Aruba Marriott Supports local summer program "Art Rules Aruba"



PALM BEACH - On Sunday July 14th was the annual kick off for the summer program Art Rules Aruba at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. Coordinated by the sisters Ayra and Ira Kip of the nonprofit foundation Pancake Gallery, twenty international professionals gathered at Aruba Marriott's Ballroom for the first brainstorming session followed by a brunch at La Vista restaurant. The two week summer program of-

fers young aspiring Arubans a platform to cultivate their artistic talent and skills. Over two hundred fifty local participants will receive classes in various disciplines including music, dance, poetry, graphic design, photography and other visual arts which will be presented at the annual showcase on Friday July 26th in San Nicolas. "As a part of Marriott's Spirit to Serve our local community, we are excited to be



# Beauty On The Beach

## Sandra Santelmo

Living in Barcelona España She was born in Venezuela and her parents are born in Italy She works as a dentist in Spain. And this is her third visit in Aruba she is on vacation staying at a friends house

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a sponsor and part of this amazing program for local teenagers. Art Rules Aruba allows them to explore their talents and to receive the support to grow and develop their skills", said Marriott's PR & eCommerce

Manager Keirsin Tjon. In the photos a brainstorming session taking place in the Amsterdam Meeting Room in Aruba Marriott & Stellaris Casino. □

**Photographs by Niels Stokkel**





At Caribbean Queen, Palm Beach Plaza Mall:

## Don't miss today's demonstration by artist Trudy Lampe!



ORANJESTAD - Caribbean Queen for July 2013, local artist Trudy Lampe, who is showing her beautiful African Caribbean Driftwood Masks in the boutique this month, is conducting an artistic demonstration, live, on Thursday, July 18th, in the evening hours, at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. The general public is invited.

Trudy was born in the fishing village of Savaneta, in southwestern Aruba. Her interest in art began at a very early age, as she hails from a creative family, her dad being a talented musician. In 1976 she took her first pottery course. She continued exploring the art and developing her technique in the Netherlands

at Sticusa, a Dutch foundation for the arts, for a period of two years. In 1978, she came back to Aruba to work at the not-for-profit Fundacion Artesania Arubiano, teaching all she had learned overseas to young students, some of them handicapped. In 1980 she started her own pottery studio, producing a variety of artisan

products, targeting tourists as potential clients. At the same time she was also inspired to paint Aruban landscapes on her ceramic pieces. As the demand for her work grew, she experimented with paint on different materials, such as driftwood, and having always been an admirer of African and Indian masks, she was moved to com-

bine those images with Caribbean themes, creating her signature African-Caribbean masks. Trudy favors the use of bright colors, their energy reminding her audience that she lives and works in the Caribbean.

"My personal imagination," she explains, "paints the Caribbean's bright and happy colors, reflecting a carefree lifestyle, in warm weather, surrounded by gentle people."

Trudy's atelier can be found in her home village of Savaneta, where she raises her family of three kids. Her work will be on display at Caribbean Queen, Palm Beach Plaza Mall, for the entire month of July, where she is conducting her live demonstration on July 18th, 2013, in the evening hours. □



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## House Speaker rejects Olympic boycott over Snowden

**DONNA CASSATA**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The leader of the House of Representatives on Wednesday soundly rejected suggestions that the United States boycott the Winter Olympics in Sochi if Russia grants asylum to National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden.

"Why would we want to punish U.S. athletes who've been training for three years to compete in the Olympics over a traitor who can't find a place to call home?" Speaker John Boehner told reporters at a news conference.

The Republican was asked about Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham's idea that if Russia provides a safe haven for Snowden, the United States should consider keeping its athletes home during the 2014 Winter Olympics next February.

Snowden, who disclosed details about U.S. intelligence surveillance of Internet activity, has applied for temporary asylum in Russia three weeks after arriving at a Moscow airport from Hong Kong. The United States wants Snowden sent home to face prosecution for espionage.

In 1980, the United States boycotted the Olympics in Moscow over Russia's invasion of Afghanistan. The U.S. Olympic Committee said in a statement Wednesday that it strongly opposes the idea that a boycott is in the country's best interest.

"If there are any lessons to be learned from the American boycott of 1980, it is that Olympic boycotts do not work," said committee spokesman Patrick Sandusky. □

# Prepping for British Open unlike any other major

**DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP Golf Writer

**GULLANE, Scotland (AP)** —

The practice round schedule posted each day at Muirfield is not the only way to determine how players are getting ready for the British Open.

Johnson Wagner's name was on the tee sheet at St. Andrews over the weekend.

Geoff Ogilvy could be found on the other side of the country, on links courses like Turnberry, Royal Troon and Western Gailes. Justin Rose was at North Berwick. So were Bubba Watson and Luke Donald, who got in plenty of golf along the Firth of Forth the week before the British Open.

It's not unusual for players to take off from their regular tours a week before a major to prepare. What's different about the British Open — isn't everything? — is that preparations aren't limited to the course they will be playing.

"You can prepare for the U.S. Open on the range," Ogilvy said Wednesday. "But you can only prepare for The Open on the course. And it doesn't necessarily have to be the course you're playing. The seaside courses here, they're the only courses with turf like this, with sand like this. There's something different about the seaside wind in Scotland. ... You can fly to Shanghai or Abu Dhabi and work on what you need at home. But you can't work on what you need at home until you get here."

Tiger Woods, a three-time Open champion, arrived Sunday morning and has played nine holes a day. There was a time he would



**Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland plays out of the bunker on the 18th hole during a practice round ahead of the British Open Golf Championship at Muirfield, Scotland, Wednesday July 17, 2013.**

**Associated Press**

leave home a week early and head to Ireland with Mark O'Meara and David Duval, both former Open champions, and play the links courses there.

Woods loves to recall his first experience with links golf in 1995 as the U.S. Amateur champion. He played the Scottish Open at Carnoustie, and then drove down the North Sea shoreline to St. Andrews for the British Open.

"I absolutely fell in love with it, to be able to dink a 5-iron from 150 yards and bump it on the ground, or vice versa — have 260 out and hit a 4-iron and it bounces over the green. That, to me, is pretty neat. Because we play everywhere around the world — an airborne game where you have to

hit the ball straight up in the air and make it stop. Here it's different. A draw will go one distance, a fade will go another, and they're so dramatic. And I just absolutely love it."

True, adjusting to links golf can just as easily take place at Muirfield, where the British Open starts Thursday. Defending champion Ernie Els came down from Castle Stuart and has stayed at Muirfield, wrapping up his final practice round Wednesday just after 6 p.m.

But there are no tricks at Muirfield. There are hardly any blind shots. Most of the bunkers are in plain view from the tee. That's one of the reasons that Muirfield is a favorite of so many players, who use words like

"fair" and "honest test," which aren't always heard on other links courses.

"I think of all the Open venues, it's probably one of the least quirky ones," Donald said Wednesday. "It's quite straightforward. Obviously with the weather conditions, it's playing firm and fast. It's going to be about controlling your golf ball this week. And the weather looks good. The course is set up just the way the R&A would like it. It's bouncy. It's a little bit of a breeze out there. Firm conditions are a good protector of the golf course, and we certainly have that this week."

The forecast is dry for the week, with perhaps some mist on the weekend. Even though officials had the course just the way they wanted it early in the week, they have turned on a few sprinklers in the evening to keep it from getting overcooked.

"I think it's no exaggeration to say that in my time at the R&A with direct involvement in The Open Championship, which goes back to 2000, factors have combined this year to make this the best course set up we've ever had in that period," R&A chief executive Peter Dawson said. "The course is just as we want it. It's hard. It's fast. It's in wonderful condition. The rough is just right. I think the players are enjoying it."

It all starts to unfold Thursday morning when Peter Senior of Australia hits the opening tee shot.

Among the early starters are Els, Rose and Brandt Snedeker in one group, with Phil Mickelson, Rory McIlroy and Hideki Matsuyama a few groups behind. □



# Union says drug bans likely not served this year

RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. baseball players' association says any suspensions resulting from the sport's latest drug investigation likely won't be served until next year if the punishments are challenged before an arbitrator.

Union head Michael Weiner expects Major League Baseball will notify the union of its plans for penalties in the next month, and the association will then argue any sanctions should not be announced until after a grievance hearing, and then only if arbitrator Fredric Horowitz upholds a ban.

"We're going to have a discussion with them. That discussion will include whether or not names of suspended players will be announced publicly," Weiner said Tuesday.

Former MVPs Alex Rodriguez and Ryan Braun are



New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez makes a throw to first base to end the third inning of a Class AA baseball game with the Trenton Thunder against the Reading Phillies, Monday, July 15, 2013 in Reading, Pa.

among more than a dozen players under investigation for ties to Biogenesis, a closed anti-aging clinic in Florida linked with the distribution of performance-enhancing drugs.

MLB officials have been

interviewing players, who have been represented by the union and their own lawyers.

A provision in baseball's drug agreement says discipline for first offenders can be announced before a

Associated Press

hearing if the penalty results from an allegation that became public other than through MLB or a team. Miami New Times published allegations in January, but the union could argue that a penalty results from evi-

dence baseball has gathered rather than the newspaper account.

After MLB and the union decide how to process grievances, hearings will be scheduled before Horowitz — but not before September and possibly later. Each player is entitled to a separate hearing, and Weiner said the union wants Horowitz to hear all cases.

"When all the interviews are done, we will meet with the commissioner's office and we'll try to work something out," Weiner said.

"Our players that deserve the suspensions, we'll try to we'll try to come up with a fair suspension. Our players that don't deserve suspensions, we will argue that they don't deserve a suspension. And I hope we have success. We may not have success on every single player, but I hope we have a fair amount of success." □

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# Rivera enters early, helps AL win All-Star game

MIKE FITZPATRICK  
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Mariano Rivera, appearing in his last All-Star Game, pitched a perfect eighth inning to help the American League beat the National League 3-0 on Tuesday, giving the eventual AL champion home-field advantage in the World Series.

The New York Yankees' indomitable closer tossed a perfect inning and soaked up a pair of standing ovations at Citi Field — home of the crosstown Mets — as he received MVP honors.

Nine other pitchers combined on a three-hit shutout as the AL won its first All-Star game since 2009.

Mets pitcher Matt Harvey and opposing starter Max Scherzer of the Detroit Tigers were among a record 39 first-time All-Stars in a game that featured four players 21 or younger — baseball's next generation. But it was Rivera, at 43 the oldest All-Star since 1991, who was the center of attention in his farewell season.

He came in from the bullpen to Metallica's "Enter Sandman" just like across town at Yankee Stadium, and was left alone on the field for more than a minute to take in a rousing ovation. "It was a great moment. He is one of the best pitchers that's ever played this

game," Tigers outfielder Torii Hunter said.

Players on both sides clapped from the top of the dugout steps, and he tipped his cap to the crowd.

Then he went to work, retiring three straight hitters on 16 pitches before walking off to another ovation and receiving a hug from Detroit ace Justin Verlander.

"I just happened to be standing out there," Verlander said. "That's something that I will never forget."

With his final All-Star appearance behind him, the next step for Rivera will be the Hall of Fame, and memories of nights like Tuesday.

"It was tough. It was special," an emotional Rivera said. "Seeing the fans sharing and both teams standing out of the dugout, managers, coaches, players — priceless."

It was the latest salute to Rivera, set to retire after this season. The 13-time All-Star is on something of a farewell tour, receiving creative gifts at each opposing ballpark he visits for the final time.

He got a rocking chair built out of broken bats in Minnesota, a decorated surfboard and bottle of wine in Oakland.

Rivera has thrown nine scoreless innings in All-Star play. The only older



**American League's Mariano Rivera, of the New York Yankees, poses with the MVP trophy after the MLB All-Star baseball game, on Tuesday, July 16, 2013, in New York. The American League defeated the National League 3-0.**

pitcher to appear in an All-Star game was 47-year-old Satchel Paige 60 years ago, according to STATS. AL manager Jim Leyland had promised Rivera would pitch. So rather than risk waiting for a save opportunity that might never come, the Detroit Tigers' skipper made his much-awaited call one inning earlier than Rivera is accustomed. "First class all the way,"

Mets captain David Wright said. "Well deserving for Mariano. I was on the top step clapping and cheering as loud as I could."

Winning pitcher Chris Sale from the Chicago White Sox worked two perfect innings for the AL, which posted its third shutout and first since 1990.

The National League didn't manage a baserunner until Carlos Beltran's single in the

fourth.

Harvey responded to strong home-stadium support by striking out three batters in two scoreless innings, leaving to a standing ovation.

Harvey was the youngest All-Star starting pitcher since former Mets ace Dwight Gooden a quarter-century ago.

All the buildup might have made him a little too excited at the start. Mike Trout doubled on his opening pitch, and Harvey drilled Yankees slugger Robinson Cano just above the right knee with a fastball on the third.

In obvious pain, Cano initially stayed in the game but eventually limped off and Harvey made an apologetic gesture.

"I didn't mean to," Harvey said. "I feel terrible. Apologies go out to him."

Cano had a bruised thigh but said he did not expect to miss any games when AL play resumes.

"Just a little tight," Cano said. "I'll be good for Friday."

Baltimore's Adam Jones doubled against Cliff Lee to start the fifth inning and scored when J.J. Hardy beat out a potential double play.

Jason Kipnis doubled home a run in the eighth off Atlanta closer Craig Kimbrel to pad the lead and complete the scoring. □

# Federer rallies to win at German Championships

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — Roger Federer rallied to beat Daniel Brands 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 on Wednesday at the German Tennis Championships in his first match since his second-round loss at Wimbledon last month.

Using a bigger racket for the first time, Federer served three aces in the opening game but still lost his serve and ultimately the set to the German. The former No. 1 broke once in the second set and twice in the decider to reach the third round.

The 17-time major champion is a four-time winner in Hamburg, the city where he won his first title in 2002

to break into the top 10.

After losing at Wimbledon to Sergiy Stakhovsky — who failed to qualify for the main draw in Hamburg — Federer dropped to No. 5 in the rankings, the first time in a decade that he's been that low.

Brands, who celebrated his 26th birthday Wednesday and received a cake after the match, received few presents from the top-seeded Federer in the last two sets. However, the Swiss star needed four match points to close it out. He finished with nine aces on the clay-court surface.

"It was a tough match, Daniel is playing a very

good season," Federer said.

Federer will play qualifier Jan Hajek of the Czech Republic, who beat 15th-seeded Ernests Gulbis of Latvia 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

Tommy Haas outlasted qualifier Blaz Kavcic of Slovenia 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 to advance to the third round.

The second-seeded Haas blew a 4-1 lead in the third set but held serve and then broke to clinch the match when Kavcic sent a forehand long.

"At the end, it's the victory that counts," Haas said.

Haas was runner-up in the tournament last year and is the oldest player in the

top 100 at 35. He is looking for his second title at home this season, after winning in Munich.

Fourth-seeded Jerzy Janowicz of Poland, a Wimbledon semifinalist, prevailed 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (4) over Robin Haase of the Netherlands. Defending champion Juan Monaco of Argentina, seeded fifth, beat Gael Monfils 6-4, 6-4.

Four other seeded players lost — No. 6 Andreas Seppi, No. 10 Tommy Robredo, No. 13 Mikhail Youzhny and No. 16 Martin Klizan. No. 11 Feliciano Lopez, No. 12 Fabio Fognini and No. 14 Fernando Verdasco advanced. □



**Slovenia's Blaz Kavcic returns a ball to German Tommy Haas during their ATP tennis match at the German Open in Hamburg, Germany Wednesday July 17, 2013.**

Associated Press



# Froome focusing on grueling Alps as Paris nears

JEROME PUGMIRE

AP Sports Writer  
CHORGES, France (AP) — Winning more stages in this Tour de France doesn't interest Chris Froome, who is focusing only on protecting his overall lead during the next three days of grueling climbing in the Alps. He already has three Tour

Contador on the first part of the undulating 32-kilometer (20-mile) course, from Embrun to Chorges in the French Alps, but made a crucial bike change midway through to gain time. "The first and the second check I know I was a little bit behind Alberto," Froome said. "That bike

seconds behind Froome, who is 4:51 clear of Contador's Saxo-Tinkoff teammate, Roman Kreuziger. Mollema is fourth, 6:23 back. "I definitely get the feeling that the Spanish guys are racing absolutely full gas every day, and they're not going to slow down just because I have

He was two seconds behind Contador at the first time split. The Spaniard was happy to take more risks it looked to be Contador's day, with Froome 11 seconds behind when reaching the top of the second climb. He started to claw back the deficit on his new bike. "The first bike was more adapted to climbing," Froome said. "The second bike was a little faster."

Riders now face mammoth climbs before Sunday's nighttime finish on the Champs-Élysées. Thursday's 172.5-kilometer (107-mile) trek from Gap to L'Alpe d'Huez features two HC ascents of L'Alpe d'Huez — one of the Tour's most famed climbs. Both of the ascents are known as HC (Hors Catégorie, meaning they are so tough they are considered beyond classification.) □



Stage winner Christopher Froome of Britain, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, strains in the last meters of the seventeenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race an individual time trial over 32 kilometers (20 miles) with start in Embrun and finish in Chorges, France, Wednesday July 17, 2013.

Associated Press

stage wins in 2013 after beating two-time champion Alberto Contador by nine seconds on Wednesday to win the Stage 17 time-trial.

That means Froome is four days away from becoming the second consecutive British rider to win cycling's premier race following Sky teammate Bradley Wiggins' success last year. Froome leads the second-place Contador by 4 minutes, 34 seconds — a sizeable cushion that gives him some margin for error in the Alps.

"I'm just looking to keep the yellow jersey, not to win any more stages," Froome said. "Alberto's shown time and time again that he's a rider to be reckoned with. He's going to keep pushing me every day."

Froome was slower than

change really made the difference."

Froome, who has also won two mountain stages, made up for last week when he was edged out by Tony Martin in the first time-trial in Stage 11 — even though he didn't expect to win this one.

"I went into today thinking: 'OK, I'm going to give this a really good shot, but I'm not going to empty myself in respect of what's coming up (in the mountains,)" Froome said. "I'm over the moon with the result. I really expected to lose at least 30 seconds to a minute."

Bauke Mollema held second place overall for several stages, but Contador took his place with the Dutchman dropping to fourth.

Joaquin Rodriguez finished the stage in third place, 10

the advantage of four minutes," Froome said. "It's going to be a race all the way to Paris."

Froome, wearing an aerodynamic black helmet with a thick yellow stripe down the middle, coughed into his right hand as he prepared to start. When the five-second countdown finished, he puffed his cheeks and rolled down the ramp.

The day after narrowly avoiding a crash when Contador fell just in front of him on a long downhill, Froome started cautiously on a circuit that was slippery after some afternoon rain and featured two short, sharp climbs and two quick descents.

"The first downhill was dangerous and very technical, so I didn't want to take any risks," Froome said.

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SAT 3:15 | 6:20  
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FRI 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:20 | 12:00  
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# New surgical knife can instantly detect cancer

MARIA CHENG

AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — Surgeons may have a new way to smoke out cancer.

An experimental surgical knife can help surgeons make sure they've removed all the cancerous tissue, doctors reported Wednesday. Surgeons typically use knives that heat tissue as they cut, producing a sharp-smelling smoke. The new knife analyzes the smoke and can instantly signal whether the tissue is cancerous or healthy.

Now surgeons have to send the tissue to a lab and wait for the results.

Dr. Zoltan Takats of Imperial College London suspected the smoke produced during cancer surgery might contain some important cancer clues. So he designed a "smart" knife hooked up to a refrigerator-sized mass spectrometry device on wheels that analyzes the smoke from cauterizing tissue.

The smoke picked up by the smart knife is compared to a library of smoke "signatures" from cancerous and non-cancerous tissues. Information appears on a monitor: green means the tissue is healthy, red means cancerous and yellow means unidentifiable.

To make sure they've removed the tumor, surgeons now send samples to a laboratory while the patient remains on the operating table. It can take about 30 minutes to get an answer in the best hospitals, but even then doctors cannot be entirely sure, so they often remove a bit more tissue than they think is strictly necessary.

If some cancerous cells remain, patients may need to have another surgery or undergo chemotherapy or radiation treatment.

"(The new knife) looks fabulous," said Dr. Emma King, a head and neck cancer surgeon at Cancer Research U.K., who was not connected to the project. The smoke contains broken-up bits of tumor tissue and "it makes sense to look at it more carefully," she said.



A member of 'intelligent knife' development team uses the knife on a piece of animal muscle during a demonstration at St Mary's Hospital in London, Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

Associated Press



The new knife and its accompanying machines were made for about £250,000 (\$380,000) but scientists said the price tag would likely drop if the technology is commercialized.

The most common treatment for cancers involving solid tumors is removing

them in surgery. In the U.K., one in five breast cancer patients who have surgery will need further operations to get rid of the tumor entirely.

Scientists tested the new knife at three hospitals between 2010 and 2012. Tissue samples were taken from 302 patients to create

a database of which kinds of smoke contained cancers, including those of the brain, breast, colon, liver, lung and stomach.

That was then used to analyze tumors from 91 patients; the smart knife correctly spotted cancer in every case. The study was published Wednesday in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*. The research was paid for by groups including Imperial College London and the Hungarian government.

At a demonstration in London on Wednesday, doctors used the new knife — which resembles a fat white pen — to slice into slabs of pig's liver. Within minutes, the room was filled with an acrid-smelling smoke comparable to the fumes that would be produced during surgery on a human patient.

Takats said the knife would eventually be submitted

for regulatory approval but that more studies were planned.

He added the knife could also be used for other things like identifying tissues with bad blood supply and identifying the types of bacteria present.

Some experts said the technology could help eliminate the guesswork for doctors operating on cancer patients. "Brain cancers are notorious for infiltrating into healthy brain tissue beyond what's visible to the surgeon," said Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, deputy chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society. "If this can definitively tell doctors whether they've removed all the cancerous tissue, it would be very valuable," he said.

Still, Lichtenfeld said more trials were needed to prove the new knife would actually make a significant difference to patients. Early enthusiasm for new technologies hasn't always panned out, he said, citing the recent popularity of robotic surgery as an example.

"It expanded very rapidly but is now hitting some bumps along the road," he said.

Lichtenfeld said it's unclear whether more widespread use of the smart knife will actually help patients live longer and said studies should also look into whether the tool cuts down on patient's surgery times, their blood loss and rate of wound infections.

"This is a fascinating science and we need to adopt any technology that works to save patients," Lichtenfeld said. "But first we have to be sure that it works." □

## Dubai diet: Slim down, get paid in gold

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Shedding weight is as good as gold under an unusual slim-down initiative in Dubai over growing concerns about rising obesity levels in the wealthy Gulf city-state.

Municipal officials are offering a gram of gold — worth about \$45 at current prices — for each kilogram of weight lost in a 30-day challenge.

The minimum drop is two kilograms, or 4.4 pounds, to

cash in.

Local media Wednesday quotes Dubai official Husain Lootah as saying there is no limit on the payout for the golden losers, who must sign up and weigh in Friday. The plan is the latest at-

tempt to encourage healthier lifestyles in the United Arab Emirates.

Across the Gulf Arab states, authorities have raised alarms about rising obesity from increasing fast-food diets and lack of exercise. □



# China's online population rises to 519 million

BEIJING (AP) — China's population of Internet users has grown to 591 million, driven by a 20 percent rise over the past year in the number of people who surf the Web from smartphones and other wireless devices, an industry group reported Wednesday.

The end-of-June figures from the China Internet Network Information Center represent a 10 percent rise in total Internet use over a year earlier. The number of wireless users rose to 464 million.

The communist government encourages Internet use for business and edu-

cation but tries to block access to material deemed subversive or obscene. The rise of Web use has driven the growth of new Chinese industries from online shopping and microblogs to on-line video.

The latest growth raised the percentage of China's population that uses the Internet to 44 percent, according to CNNIC.

Internet companies are scrambling to respond to the explosive popularity of smartphones, tablets and other wireless devices by rolling out services made for them.

This week, the operator

of China's most popular search engine, Baidu Inc., announced it will pay \$1.9 billion to acquire a distributor of smartphone apps, 91 Wireless Websoft.

Authorities tightened online controls last year after social networking and other websites played a key role in protests that brought down governments in Egypt and Tunisia.

Also last year, regulators tightened controls on video, requiring providers to prescreen all material before posting online after officials complained some content was vulgar, pornographic or too violent. □



In this Dec. 28, 2012 photo, people use computers at an internet cafe in Xiangyang city, in central China's Hubei province.

Associated Press

# Driving somewhere? There's a gov't record of that

ANNE FLAHERTY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chances are local or state police departments have photographs of individuals' cars in their files, noting where a person was driving on a particular day, even if the person never did anything wrong.

Using automated scanners, law enforcement agencies across the U.S. have amassed millions of digital records on the location and movement of every vehicle with a license plate, according to a study published Wednesday by the American Civil Liberties Union. Affixed to police cars, bridges or buildings, the scanners capture images of passing or parked vehicles and note their location, uploading that information into police databases. Departments keep the records for weeks or years, sometimes indefinitely.

As the technology becomes cheaper and more ubiquitous, and federal grants focus on aiding local terrorist detection, even small police agencies are able to deploy more sophisticated surveillance systems. While the Supreme Court ruled in 2012 that a judge's approval is needed to track a car with a satellite system, networks of plate scanners allow police



An Alexandria Police Department squad car is seen outfitted with a license plate scanner mounted to the trunk, Tuesday, July 16, 2013, in Alexandria, Va.

Associated Press

effectively to track a driver's location, sometimes several times every day, with few legal restrictions. The ACLU says the scanners assemble what it calls a "single, high-resolution image of our lives."

"There's just a fundamental question of whether we're going to live in a society where these dragnet surveillance systems become routine," said Catherine Crump, a staff attorney with the ACLU. The civil rights group is proposing that police departments immediately delete any records of cars not linked to a crime.

The report comes after former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden leaked de-

tails about NSA surveillance programs earlier this year, revealing a broad U.S. intelligence program to monitor Internet and telephone activity to ferret out terror plots.

Law enforcement officials said the scanners can be crucial to tracking suspicious cars, aiding drug busts and finding abducted children. License plate scanners also can be efficient. The state of Maryland told the ACLU that troopers could "maintain a normal patrol stance" while capturing up to 7,000 license plate images in a single eight hour shift.

"At a time of fiscal and budget constraints, we need better assistance for law enforcement," said Harvey

Eisenberg, chief of the national security section and assistant U.S. attorney in the state of Maryland.

Law enforcement officials also point out that the technology is legal in most cases, automating a practice that has been carried out for years. The ACLU found that only five states have laws governing license plate readers. New Hampshire, for example, bans the technology except in narrow circumstances, while Maine and Arkansas limit how long plate information can be stored.

"There's no expectation of privacy" for a vehicle driving on a public road or parked in a public place, said Lt. Bill Hedgpeth, a spokesman for the Mesquite Police Department in Texas, which has records stretching back to 2008, although the city plans next month to begin deleting files older than two years. "It's just a vehicle. It's just a license plate."

In Yonkers, New York, police said retaining the information indefinitely helps detectives solve future crimes. In a statement, the department said it uses license plate readers as a "reactive investigative tool" that is only accessed if detectives are looking for a particular vehicle in connection to a crime.

"These plate readers are

not intended nor used to follow the movements of members of the public," the department's statement said.

But even if law enforcement officials say they don't want a public location tracking system, the records add up quickly. In Jersey City, New Jersey, for example, the population is only 250,000 but the city collected more than 2 million plate images on file. Because the city keeps records for five years, the ACLU estimates that it has some 10 million on file, making it possible for police to plot the movements of most residents depending upon the number and location of the scanners, according to the ACLU.

The ACLU study, based on 26,000 pages of responses from 293 police departments and state agencies across the country, also found that license plate scanners produced a small fraction of "hits," or alerts to police that a suspicious vehicle has been found. □





# Stocks edge up on Fed, earnings

STEVE ROTHWELL  
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Some soothing words from Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke pushed the stock market to slender gains on Wednesday. Higher earnings for several major companies also helped. Bernanke said that the U.S. central bank had no firm timetable for cutting back on its bond purchases. The Fed would consider reducing its stimulus program if the economy improves, but Bernanke emphasized in his testimony to Congress that the reductions were "by no means on a preset course." The central bank is currently buying \$85 billion of bonds a month to keep interest rates low and encourage borrowing. Concerns that the Fed was poised to start easing back on that stimulus before the economy had recovered sufficiently caused the stock market to pull back in June.

said. The Standard & Poor's 500 index climbed 4.65 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,680.91. The Nasdaq composite rose 11.50 points, or 0.3 percent, to 3,610. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 18.67 points, or 0.1 percent, to 15,470.52. The Dow was held back by American Express and Caterpillar. The credit card company's stock slumped \$1.47, or 1.9 percent, to \$76.80 after European regulators proposed to cap the lucrative processing fees the card company imposes. Caterpillar fell \$1.50, or 1.7 percent, to \$86.67 after prominent short-seller Jim Chanos said he was shorting the stock because it was exposed to a slump in the mining industry. In a presentation at the 'Delivering Alpha' conference, broadcast by CNBC, Chanos said Caterpillar was "tied to the wrong products, at the wrong time."

cent after the government reported that hiring was strong in June. If Treasury yields climb too fast, it worries stock investors because of the impact that rising interest rates have on the wider economy. For example, higher mortgage rates, which are linked to Treasury yields, would slow demand for homes. The stock market has climbed back to record levels in July following its brief slump in June, when the S&P 500 logged its first monthly decline since October on concern that the Federal Reserve would ease back on its economic stimulus too quickly. The S&P 500 has gained 4.7 percent in July after falling 1.5 percent in June. It climbed to a record 1,682 on Monday. The index is up 17.9 percent this year, and stocks could head higher still as the economy improves in the second half of the year,



Traders Thomas McCauley, Kevin Coulter, and Brandon Barb work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

The concern has been that "the Fed was going to dial the (stimulus) down to zero regardless how the economy was doing," said Phil Orlando, chief market strategist at Federated Investors. "I don't think that's the case at all...the Fed is going to evaluate the economic landscape," before it cuts its stimulus, Orlando

Bernanke's comments had a stronger impact on the Treasury market than on the stock market. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.49 percent from 2.53 percent late Tuesday as investors bought U.S. government bonds. The yield has been declining since July 5, when it surged to 2.74 per-

says Rob Lutts, chief investment officer at Cabot Money Management. "Expect better things," said Lutts. "The market's going to churn its way higher from here." Investors are also keeping an eye on company earnings during one of the busiest weeks for second-quarter profit reports. □



Swiss pharmaceutical company Novartis AG raised its sales outlook for the full year on Wednesday July 17, 2013, despite posting a 5% net income drop in the second quarter. The Basel-based company said it expects full-year sales to grow at a rate in the low single-digits, boosted by delays in generic competition against its blockbuster Diovan.

(AP Photo/Keystone, Georgios Kefalas)

## Novartis lifting sales outlook despite posting Q2 profit dip

JOHN HEILPRIN

Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — Swiss pharmaceutical company Novartis AG raised its sales outlook for the full year on Wednesday, despite posting a 5 percent net income drop in the second quarter. The Basel-based company said it expects full-year sales to grow at a rate in the low single-digits, boosted by delays in generic competition against its blockbuster Diovan. In April, the company said in its first-quarter results that it expected sales to be in line with last years.

Diovan, which is generically known as Valsartan, is a treatment for high blood pressure which lost U.S. patent protection last year. Novartis has been counting on new product launches, such as Gilenya for multiple sclerosis and Afinitor for cancer, to offset patent expirations. A key one is blockbuster leukemia drug Gleevec, which is to begin losing U.S. patent protection in 2015.

Meantime, the company's board of directors announced that its outgoing board chairman, Daniel Vasella, would receive \$5.2 million in cash and unrestricted shares plus a guaranteed minimum fee of \$250,000 a year from 2014 through 2016, just to be available for consulting and coaching. He'll be paid a

consulting rate of \$25,000 a day. Vasella's departure touched off widespread anger in Switzerland — and led to a national debate over executives' pay — for the huge \$77 million severance package he was offered. He later declined to accept it because of the Swiss public's outcry. Shares in Novartis closed down 0.43 percent at 68.80 Swiss francs on the Zurich exchange Wednesday. Novartis said in its financial results that quarterly net income fell to \$2.548 billion, down from \$2.675 billion in the comparable period a year ago. The company pointed to loss of patents, pricing pressure and the weakening Japanese yen as factors, though it said the currency impact "represents a larger proportion of operating income than sales." Joseph Jimenez, CEO of Novartis, said the company delivered a solid second quarter, with sales of Gilenya a particular highlight.

Despite having new competition in that space, Gilenya was up 66 percent versus a year ago," he told reporters. "There are many emerging markets where products that have already generic competition are still growing, because of the strength of those brands, and because of the high quality of those medicines." □



## Barclays Bank pledges to fight US energy fine

**DANICA KIRKA**  
**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — Barclays, Britain's second-biggest bank, vowed to fight almost half-billion dollars in fines for manipulating electricity prices in California and other western states, setting the stage for a courtroom battle with U.S. regulators.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Tuesday ordered the U.K.-based bank and four of its former traders to pay \$453 million in civil penalties for fixing power prices between November 2006 and December 2008.

The U.S. energy watchdog also ordered Barclays to pay \$34.9 million, plus interest, for what it described as "unjust profits" made on energy assistance programs for low-income families in Arizona, California, Oregon and Washington.

"We believe that our trading was legitimate and in compliance with applicable law," the bank said in a statement, adding it had cooperated with the investigation.

"We intend to vigorously defend this matter," Barclays said.

The allegations will mark a fresh blow to the scandal-shaken bank. The bank's new chief executive, Antony Jenkins, has made a point of saying that ethics matter as much to Barclays as the bottom line. The lender has faced a string of scandals costing it billions of pounds (dollars), and was fined by regulators in the U.S. and Britain for manipulating the London interbank offered rate, or LIBOR, the benchmark for trillions of dollars in loans — including some home mortgages.

The statement by U.S. regulators said that Barclays and the four traders — Daniel Brin, Scott Connelly, Karen Levine and Ryan Smith — took part in an "affirmative, coordinated and intentional effort to carry out a manipulative scheme." □

## Bank of America's earnings soar whopping 70%

**Continued from Front**

It also cut about 18,300 jobs over the year, or nearly 7 percent of its work force. The bank now has about 257,000 employees, down about 11 percent from its peak of nearly 289,000 in early 2011.

In a call with reporters, Chief Financial Officer Bruce Thompson noted that some of the job cuts were in the unit that services troubled mortgages, which is shrinking as the bank works through those loans. He also said the bank had added jobs in the unit that makes new mortgages.

The bank has also been closing branches. The number of branches fell to about 5,300, down by about 260 over the year. Thompson said the bank would continue to trim branches, and indicated that the bank would sell branches in more rural areas — in locations "outside of our principal operating areas" and where the bank didn't have "a critical mass of consumers."

Bank of America benefited from lower litigation expenses, having already settled several high-profile lawsuits related to its mort-

gage unit earlier this year. It also was able to shrink the unit that services troubled mortgages.

The bank funded nearly \$27 billion in home mortgages and home equity loans, a jump from 41 percent a year ago, though the loss in its overall mortgage business widened as the bank wound down its troubled mortgages.

Thompson said it was difficult to predict the effect that higher interest rates might have on its mort-

gage business. Though they're still near historic lows, mortgage rates have been inching higher since the Federal Reserve indicated that it might pull out of some of its programs meant to support the economy.

Thompson noted that higher rates often indicated an improving economy, which could lead to more people buying homes for the first time. But higher rates will also reduce demand for refinances, which have been

driving the mortgage business at Bank of America and other banks in recent quarters. About 83 percent of the mortgages that Bank of America funded over the quarter were refinances.

The net result, Thompson said, "is very difficult to predict until you see the environment you're in."

Investment banking and wealth management powered Bank of America's earnings more than its consumer business did. □



A customer uses a Bank of America ATM in downtown Charlotte, N.C., Tuesday, July 16, 2013. Bank of America Corp. reported strong quarterly financial results before the market opened on Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

(AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

## Mattel 2Q profit falls, Barbie sales slide again

**EL SEGUNDO, California (AP)** — Mattel said Wednesday its second-quarter net income fell 24 percent, hurt by weak sales in North America and continued softness in Barbie sales, as well as an asset impairment charge.

Its shares slumped almost 5 percent in premarket trading.

Toy industry sales have been in slight decline all year, hurt by cautious consumer spending, a video game industry slump and increased demand for electronic gadgets like smartphones and tablets. And while Mattel, the largest U.S. toymaker and maker of Monster High dolls and Hot Wheels toys, usually outperforms its rivals, the latest results show it is not

immune to industry-wide declines.

CEO Bryan Stockton said the results reflect an asset impairment charge as well as investments made to help the company grow

in the future, including increasing its share repurchase program by \$500 million.

In the April-to-June quarter, Mattel's net income dropped to \$73.3 million,

or 21 cents per share. That compares with \$96.2 million, or 28 cents per share, a year ago.

Mattel didn't specify how large the impairment charge was or give a figure that excludes unusual items.

Analysts expected earnings of 32 cents per share but typically exclude unusual items from the estimates. An impairment charge often reflects the reduced value of an asset.

Revenue for the El Segundo, California, company edged up to \$1.17 billion from \$1.16 billion as international sales grew. Still, this missed Wall Street's estimate of \$1.22 billion.

North American sales fell 2 percent, while International sales rose 4 percent. □

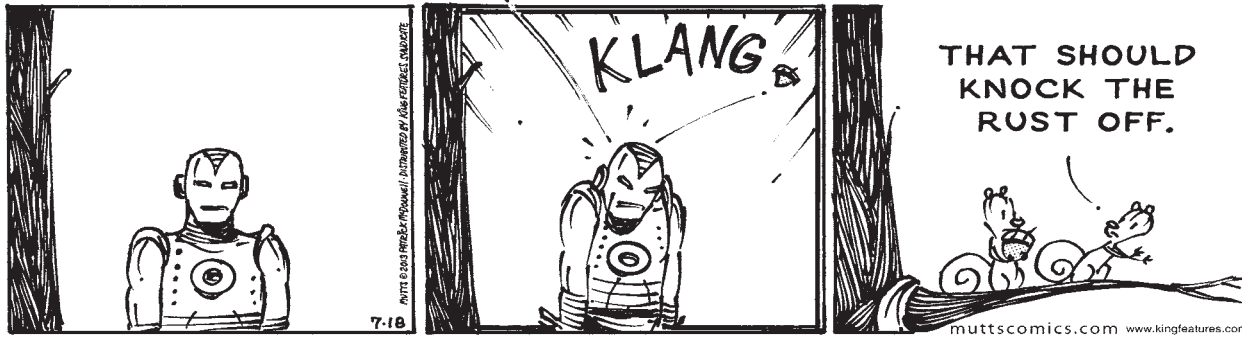


Barbie products are displayed at a local toy store in Hialeah, Fla. Mattel, the biggest U.S. toy maker, reported poor quarterly earnings on Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

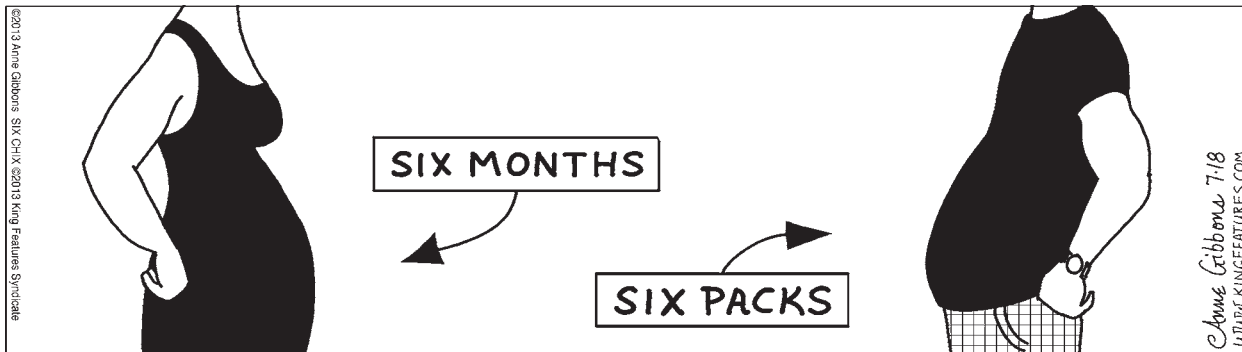
(AP Photo/Alan Diaz)



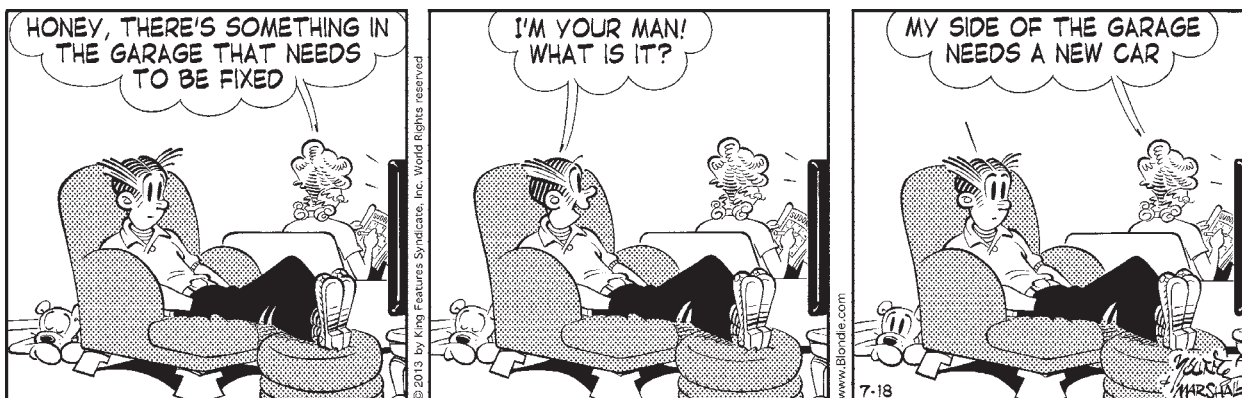
**Mutts**



**6 Chix**



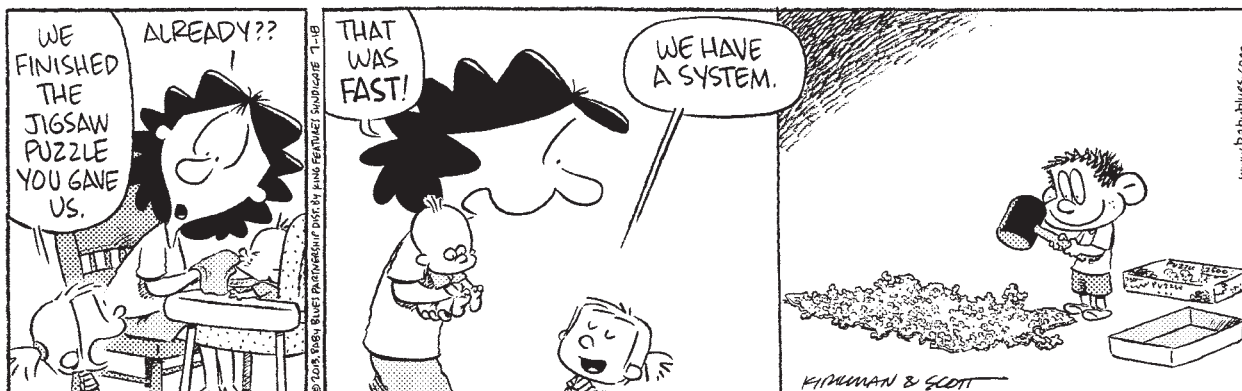
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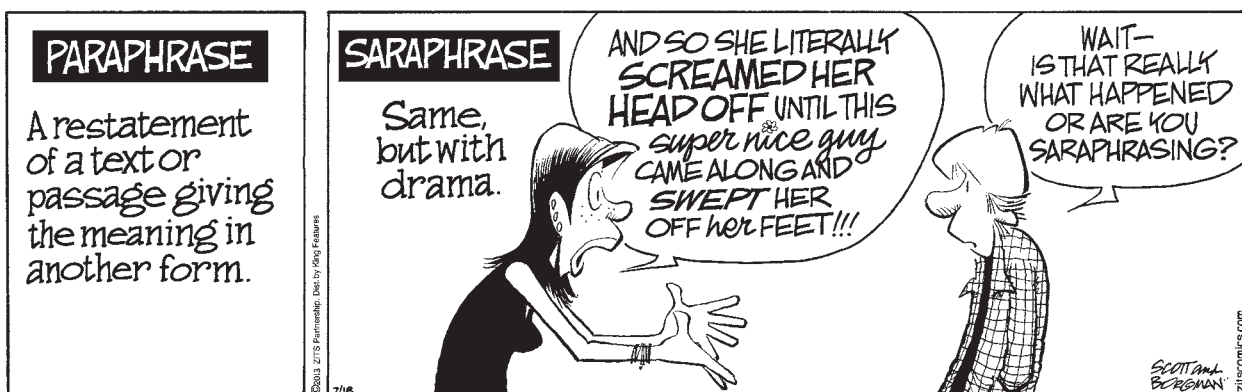
**Mother Goose & Grimm**



**Baby Blues**



**Zits**



**Conceptis Sudoku**

			8	7	4			
					1			9
	7	5			6			
		7			2	1	5	
		3				6		
	8	4	6			2		
			1			7	2	
1			9					
			4	8	3			

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/18

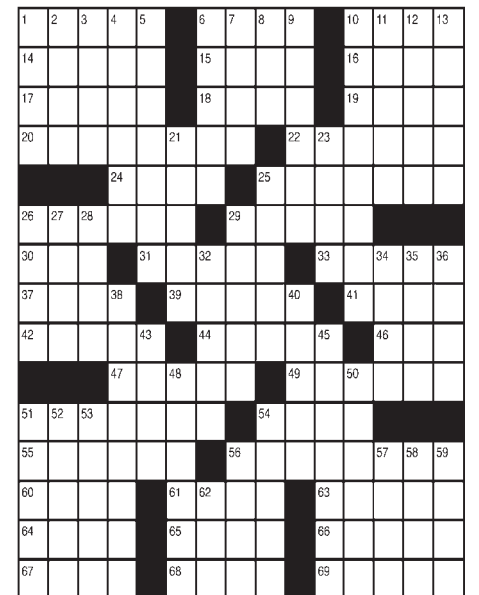
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	5	3	8	4	9	2	1	7
7	9	4	1	3	2	5	8	6
2	8	1	7	5	6	3	9	4
9	3	2	5	8	7	4	6	1
8	4	7	6	1	3	9	2	5
1	6	5	2	9	4	8	7	3
5	2	9	4	7	1	6	3	8
4	1	6	3	2	8	7	5	9
3	7	8	9	6	5	1	4	2

**ACROSS**

- 1 Selected
- 6 Iranian leader's title of old
- 10 Glasgow native
- 14 \_\_\_ about; sings the praises of
- 15 City in Texas
- 16 Penniless
- 17 Plain to see
- 18 Article; object
- 19 Sluggish
- 20 Obstinate; ornery
- 22 Lessens
- 24 Arden & Plumb
- 25 Braggart
- 26 Groups of lions
- 29 \_\_\_ oneself; put forth effort
- 30 Zodiac sign
- 31 Striped animal
- 33 Tropical lizard
- 37 Sworn statement
- 39 Set fire to
- 41 Regretted
- 42 Characteristic
- 44 Stand
- 46 Cot or crib
- 47 Avarice
- 49 Ethical principles
- 51 William Tell's specialty
- 54 Diminish
- 55 Black eye
- 56 Right on time
- 60 Sheep shelter
- 61 Slightly open
- 63 Teeming crowd
- 64 Dollar bills
- 65 Afternoon rests
- 66 Instrument in the choir loft
- 67 "\_\_\_ of the d'Urbervilles"
- 68 "Phooey!"
- 69 Flower stalks



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/18/13

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

5	Actor Emilio ___	53	Gives a traffic ticket to
6	Cheese with holes	54	Sausage
7	Despise	56	Daddy
8	Highest club	57	Encourage
9	Pay ___ to; respect highly	58	Eve's husband
10	Splash	59	Part of the eye
11	Raccoon's cousin	62	Mayonnaise
12	Leaks out		
13	Lovers' meeting		
21	Bowling alley button		
23	Björn of tennis		
25	Right on the nose		
26	Story line		
27	Tush		
28	Greek letter		
29	Was off		
32	One stroke over par		
34	Castro's land		
35	___ over; faint		
36	Chances		
38	"Your ___"; proper way to address a king		
40	Person		
43	Genealogist's drawing		
45	Blanketlike cloaks		
48	Gofer's mission		
50	Sharp answer		
51	Broad neck scarf		
52	Alps river		

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7/18/13



## Hiding In Plain Sunlight: Sun-Protective Clothing

KATE MURPHY

© 2013 New York Times

Say "sun-protective clothing," and the imagination drifts to outfits that look like hazmat suits, safari attire or possibly a burqa. But in the last few years, sun-shielding apparel has become more flattering and fashionable, reshaping the market and potentially improving public health. Many of the new lines were conceived by sun- and style-conscious women. "For a long time, I felt there was a need for this," said Alexandra Kotur, the alabaster-skinned creative director at Town & Country, who in 2011 helped found the Parasol brand of colorful and coordinated sun-protective clothing (a linen dress is \$295). "I burn easily and had been dressing like a crazy person on the beach."

Likewise Lisa Moore, a former investment banker who divides her time between Dallas and Carmel, Calif., began designing sun-protective clothing to satisfy a personal need. "I was getting these really ugly moles on my chest" from chasing after her three young children outdoors, she said. "There was just no clothing out there that was protective and pretty." So in 2008, she helped start Cover, a line of simple sun-protective separates that was picked up by Neiman Marcus last year. Both Parasol and Cover, as well as another newly established and stylish brand, Mott 50, offer clothes that are comfortably lightweight and have 50+ UPF (ultraviolet protection factor). That means the garments allow at most 2 percent of damaging ultraviolet sunlight to pass through to the skin. (A typical white T-shirt has a UPF of 5, meaning it allows penetration of 20 percent of ultraviolet light.) Synthetic fabrics like nylon, rayon and spandex tend to have a higher UPF than natural fibers, and the tighter the weave, the better. Some chemical treatments and dyes also boost UPF. "UPF is to clothes what SPF is to lotion," said Lewis

Slaten, chemical engineer and owner of International UV Testing Laboratories in Auburn, Ala., which within the last three years has had a marked increase in companies submitting fabric samples for UPF testing. "It's small companies wanting to make a go of it and larger companies expanding their lines." Indeed, this year J. Crew began offering UPF-labeled apparel,

particularly among women in their 20s and 30s. "Once they start to see signs of aging - the wrinkling and spots - they really want to cover up," Reilly said. Sunscreen is not sufficient. "A lot of Americans use sunscreen and a lot of clinicians recommend sunscreen, but there's good data that sun-protective clothing is a more effective way to protect yourself



An undated handout photo of clothing by Cover, a line of simple sun-protective separates that was picked up by Neiman Marcus last year.

(Handout via The New York Times)

and since 2008 Target has been increasing the number of UPF-rated items it carries, as have sportswear companies like Nike, Columbia and Patagonia. "It's taken awhile to educate people on what sun-protective clothing is and how it's different from regular clothing," said Anne Reilly, a founder of Mott 50, a line introduced in 2011. "But it's been a labor of love because my mom had melanoma and I lost my aunt to melanoma." While cancer is a concern of many of her customers, she said, vanity is what's really driving sales, particu-

larly from the harmful rays of the sun," said Dr. Eleni Linos, a dermatologist and clinical researcher at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. "This is a critical issue as we're seeing skyrocketing rates of skin cancer - some call it an epidemic - particularly among young people." According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, the incidence of melanoma increased by 800 percent among women under 40 and 400 percent among men under 40 from 1970 to 2009. That means one person now dies of melanoma every hour. □

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# Study: Dead stars colliding forged gold on Earth

**ALICIA CHANG**  
AP Science Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — A strange glow in space has provided fresh evidence that all the gold on Earth was forged from ancient collisions of dead stars, researchers reported Wednesday.

Astronomers have long known that fusion reactions in the cores of stars create lighter elements such as carbon and oxygen, but such reactions can't produce heavier elements like gold.

Instead, it was long thought that gold was created in a type of stellar explosion known as a supernova. But that doesn't fully explain the amount of the precious metal in the solar system.

About a decade ago, a team from Europe using supercomputers suggested that gold, platinum and other heavy metals could be formed when two exotic stars — neutron stars — crash and merge. Neutron stars are essentially stellar relics — collapsed cores of massive stars.

Now telescopes have detected such an explosion, and the observation bolsters the notion that gold in our jewelry was made in such rare and violent collisions long before the birth of the solar system about 4½ billion years ago.

People "walk around with a little tiny piece of the universe," said lead researcher Edo Berger of the

stars. The burst, in a distant galaxy, was some 3.9 billion light-years away. Each light-year is about 6

an odd glow that lasted for days. Infrared light in the glow could be evidence that heavy elements like gold had spewed out of the cosmic crash, the researchers said.

The new work, which will appear in a future issue of *Astrophysical Journal Letters*, suggests gold was produced in a similar fashion in the Milky Way. It doesn't delve into how Earth was sprinkled with riches, but previous studies have suggested that a meteor shower may have delivered gold and other precious metals to the planet. If the new study's interpretation is correct, "this would be truly very exciting news," said Stockholm University astrophysicist Stephan Rosswog, who led the earlier supercomputing effort but didn't have a role in the latest study.

More observations of gamma-ray bursts are needed, but it's looking more likely that mergers of neutron stars are "a major cauldron in which elements like gold are forged," Rosswog said.

Such flashes are thought to occur in the Milky Way about once every 100,000 years. Berger said it's unlikely another will happen in our galaxy in our lifetime. But satellites can often detect such eruptions in distant galaxies about once a month. □



**This September, 2005 file photo provided by Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. shows mining at the Fort Knox Mine, which is currently the largest operating gold mine in Alaska.**

Associated Press

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

NASA's Swift telescope last month observed a gamma-ray burst that resulted from the crash of dead

trillion miles.

The burst lasted only a fraction of a second. Using ground telescopes and the Hubble Space Telescope, Berger's team noticed



**A reconstruction of a "Nasutoceratops titusi" is shown during a news conference at the Natural History Museum of Utah Wednesday, July 17, 2013, in Salt Lake City.**

Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — Researchers in Utah said Wednesday they discovered a new type of big-nosed, horned-faced dinosaur that lived about 76 million years ago when the

North American continent was split in two.

The discovery of the creature, named "Nasutoceratops titusi," was described in the British scientific journal *Proceedings of the*

## Big-nosed, horned-faced dinosaur unearthed in U.S.

Royal Society B and by officials at the National History Museum of Utah in Salt Lake City.

The dinosaur was a wide-bodied plant-eater that grew to 15 feet long and weighed 2 1/2 tons, said Patti Carpenter, spokeswoman for the museum.

It is considered unique for its oversized nose and its exceptionally long, curved and forward-pointing horns over the eyes. It also had a low, narrow blade-like horn above the nose.

Horned dinosaurs or "ceratopsids," were four-footed herbivores that lived during the late Cretaceous period, when the North American continent was split in two by waters of a warm shallow sea.

Researchers call the western portion of the continent Laramidia. It now

yields dinosaur digs and research sites from Alaska to Mexico.

Nasutoceratops was found in the area of what is now the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, a region of plateaus, cliffs and canyons in southern Utah. Research headed by Scott Sampson, former chief curator at the museum, determined that Nasutoceratops lived in a swampy and subtropical environment about 62 miles from the water.

It was part of the same family as the well-known Triceratops, from which it derives part of its name. The second part of the name recognizes paleontologist Alan Titus for his years of research work in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

The bones were discov-

ered in 2006 by a University of Utah masters student, Eric Lund. Specimens are permanently housed and displayed at the museum at the University of Utah. Lund, who is now at Ohio University, is a co-author of the study with researchers Mark Loewen, Andrew Farke and Katherine Clayton. Sampson is now vice president of research and collections at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. He said researchers don't believe the large nose of the Nasutoceratops had anything to do with smell, since olfactory receptors were far back in the head.

Research was funded by the federal Bureau of Land Management, the National Science Foundation and the museums in Salt Lake City and Denver. □





In this May 3, 2013 file photo, U.S. singer-songwriter Bruce Springsteen performs with the E-Street Band at a concert in Stockholm. Associated Press

## Bruce Springsteen dedicates song to Trayvon Martin

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Bruce Springsteen dedicated his protest song "American Skin (41 Shots)" to teenager Trayvon Martin during a concert in Limerick, Ireland. In a video posted online, the 63-year-old singer told the crowd Tuesday: "We'll send this as a letter back home for justice for Trayvon Martin" after noticing a fan's sign that read "American Skin (41 Shots)." George Zimmerman was acquitted Saturday of second-degree murder and manslaughter charges in Martin's death. Zimmerman said he fired his gun in self-defense during a February 2012 confrontation with the 17-year-old in Sanford, Florida. Lyrics in the song include "you can get killed just for living in your American skin." Springsteen wrote the song about the 1999 police shooting death of Guinean immigrant Amadou Diallo. □

## Back for seconds, Syfy plans 'Sharknado' sequel

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Syfy says flying sharks will bite again. The network is announcing a sequel to "Sharknado," which became an instant campy classic with its recent airing. The new film premieres in 2014. This time the mayhem moves from Los Angeles to New York City. There, as before, sharks can be expected to plunge from the sky and plow through the streets as a result of an ecological nightmare. No other details of the film were disclosed. Syfy also announced a special Twitter contest to give the movie an appropriate subtitle. Fans can tweet their subtitle to @Sy-



In this image released by Syfy, Ian Ziering, second left, and Cassie Scerbo battle a shark in the Syfy original film "Sharknado." Associated Press

fyMovies using the hashtag #Sharknado. Aired last week, the disaster film was a trending topic on Twitter, generating nearly 5,000 tweets per minute at its peak. Meanwhile, nearly 1.37 million viewers tuned in. □

## With 'Conjuring,' Lili Taylor may finally win name game



This Monday July 15, 2013 photo shows actress Lili Taylor posing for a portrait in Los Angeles. Taylor stars in the haunted-house thriller "The Conjuring," opening nationwide on Friday, July 19. Associated Press

**MICHAEL CIDONI LENNOX**  
AP Entertainment Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Just one glimpse of her face is followed by a flash of familiarity.

But, oh, that name just isn't coming.

Together again for the first time: filmgoers, meet veteran character actress Lili Taylor.

After 25 years making movies, Taylor said the public most regularly approaches her about work in "Mystic Pizza" (1988), "I Shot Andy Warhol" (1996) and the 1999 remake of the '60s horror classic "The Haunting."

"I feel like that's a nice spectrum, because you've got your indie, you've got your big one," the 46-year-old actress noted in a recent interview.

"Or they can't remember," she continued, "because I'm one of those who they think I either walk my dog in their neighborhood or I live in their building. And that's the kind of actor I am, which is fine."

To the stranger, she says, "'I know you think I'm in your building. It's 'The Haunting' and that's where you know me from, and let's just cut to the chase.'"

While "The Haunting" grossed nearly \$100 million way back in 1999, it was almost universally panned by the critics, in part due to comparisons with the beloved 1963 Robert Wise origi-

nal that inspired it.

This weekend marks the arrival of another horror entry for Taylor's filmography. She's one of the four (count 'em) leads in director James Wan's "The Conjuring." Opening Friday, the R-rated film serves up its own fresh blend of two of horror cinema's all-time classiest acts: Wise's "Haunting" and William Friedkin's "The Exorcist." "The Conjuring" also stars Vera Farmiga, Patrick Wilson and Ron Livingston.

Based on an actual case investigated by paranormal expert Lorraine Warren and her late husband, Ed, "The Conjuring" invites viewers into a haunted house, introduces the nice family that has just taken possession, and then ... Well, if a reporter tells you more, clearly the devil made them do it.

As for believing in this kind of stuff, Taylor called herself "agnostic." The actress, who portrays the family's matriarch, said she "had an experience, funny enough, in Rhode Island, which is where this movie takes place. I went into a house and the house had some history to it, and it was a very uncomfortable house and there was stuff that happened in there. Prior to that, I didn't believe. After that house, I was like, 'I know I felt something and I don't know what it is.'"

Taylor has also found success on the stage, as well as on television ("Six Feet

Under," the current Netflix series "Hemlock Grove"). And while her acting may be chameleon like, Taylor's voice is unmistakable: a sweet-savory concoction that brings to mind chocolate toffee slathered with sea salt. Among the best-known of her numerous voiceover gigs is a series of spots she did for Tylenol.

They can be lucrative. "You know, off-Broadway is \$200 a week," Taylor said, smiling. "I love voiceovers, and I'd love to do more. I'm just going to put that out here." Taylor and writer-husband Nick Flynn have a 5-year-old daughter, Maeve, who may find those walks with mom are interrupted a little more frequently by the end of "The Conjuring's" big debut weekend.

Audience testing on the film was so strong ("off the charts" as per "Variety") that studio New Line moved the film's release from the dead of last winter to the height of this summer. And most early name-critic reviews have been positive.

But even if the movie's a smash and nothing changes for Taylor, even if her name doesn't go household, the actress is just happy to be working. She follows "Conjuring" with a lead role on one of Fox's buzzy fall entries, the J.J. Abrams'-produced "Almost Human."

"I just want to keep going," Taylor said. □



# What does it take to be in Blue Man Group?

**SCOTT EISEN**

**Associated Press**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Patrick Poulin alternates between sitting and standing in the lobby of Chicago's Briar Street Theatre, nervously flipping back and forth through the pages of his application to join the Blue Man Group alongside dozens of other hopefuls who have come to audition for the theatrical spectacle.

"Anything that keeps me performing would be a blessing ... If I can be on stage making people laugh or entertained, it would be a dream," said Poulin, 25, who moved to Chicago from Boston to work in the city's comedy scene and theaters. At 6-foot-1, Poulin meets the Blue Man Group's requirement to be at least 5-foot-10, but no taller than 6-foot-2.

Blue Man Group started with three friends in New York more than two decades ago and has grown from an off-Broadway show to also have productions in Boston, Chicago, Las Vegas and Orlando, Fla. A tour will soon take Blue Men to stops in

cities like Atlantic City, N.J.; Durham, N.C.; Lincoln, Neb.; Corpus Christi, Texas; Portland, Maine; and Kennewick, Wash. And international versions of the percussive show — with its three tall, bald, blue actors — are going to Australia, Brazil and Germany.

Blue Man Group is also featured on some Norwegian Cruise Line ships. About 60 actors play Blue Men around the world and producers are always looking for new performers. This summer they hosted the Chicago audition and they plan auditions in Las Vegas on Wednesday and in New York in November.

In Chicago, the dozens who joined Poulin on the first day showcased their acting abilities and drum-

ming experience, if any, with the Blue Man Group's music director. Poulin admitted he's rarely done any drumming.

"He kind of just let me follow some basic stuff he was doing," Poulin said. "I didn't go too far beyond that. I wasn't going to try to embarrass myself."

Lucky for Poulin, it turns out that while drumming is a major part of Blue Man Group productions, actually being a good drum-

mer isn't crucial for auditions.

"It's really about the character coming out through drumming," said Jeff Quay, who is associate music director for Blue Man Group and ran the music section of the Chicago auditions. "Rarely am I looking for good technique, just a guy who can take direction well, but has good listening skills." Blue Man Group staff members give the applicants an initial grade. While about 77 hopefuls showed up for open casting in Chicago, less than half made it to call-backs the next day. Another hopeful in Chicago was Dan Plehal, 25, from Chicago, who went to graduate school for theater and comes from a family of artists. Plehal and Poulin both made it through the first round of auditions.

"I think I scraped by yesterday by the skin of my teeth," Plehal said the day of call-backs, when the actors who made the cut performed in groups for a panel of Blue Man Group staff.

Collin Batten is currently one of the Blue Men in Chicago and was one of the staff members assessing the applicants. He says call-backs are "where it gets a little bit more meatier, more detailed."

Batten said call-backs give the Blue Man Group a chance to see an actor's personality, how they interact with others and if they can take direction.

"The greater goal is to create a transcending experience for people," Batten said.

An undetermined amount of people will be picked, but they will not necessarily be staying in Chicago. Once chosen, depending on their skill level, new members will have to learn the drumming for the show as well as the acting. Quay said this process can take months.

Members of the Blue Man Group are rarely known by their name, because they act as a group and are dressed exactly the same in black clothing and trademark blue makeup. That doesn't worry Plehal.

"I've never been the type of actor that prefers to be in the spotlight, the main character," he said. "I love being a supportive member of a group, being the side character, being in the ensemble."

The outcome of the audition process is still unclear for Plehal and Poulin. Plehal said he'll move anywhere and Poulin will relocate, too.

"Totally, totally," he said. "My lease ends at the end of September, so I'm ready." □



In this July 10, 2013 photograph, members of the Blue Man Group perform at the Briar Street Theatre in Chicago. Associated Press

## Jay-Z's new album sells more than 500K in 1 week

**MESFIN FEKADU**

**AP Music Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Jay-Z's new album has sold more than 500,000 units its first week.

Nielsen SoundScan said late Tuesday that preliminary data shows that "Magna Carta Holy Grail" moved about 527,000 copies. It will debut at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart this week.

The album was officially released on July 7. Samsung bought and gave 1.2 million copies of the album to Galaxy mobile phone users on July 4. Billboard is not counting those sales on its charts.

"Magna Carta" has the second-best first-week de-



In this May 14, 2012 file photo, Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter smiles after a news conference at the Philadelphia Museum of Art in Philadelphia. Associated Press

but of the year after Justin Timberlake's "20/20 Experience." The album features Timberlake, Beyonce, Frank Ocean and Timbaland.

Jay-Z's 12th album had

more than 14 million streams in its first week on Spotify, beating a record that Daft Punk set in May with "Random Access Memories." □



# Hunger Games, USA



PAUL KRUGMAN  
© 2013 New York Times

Something terrible has happened to the soul of the Republican Party. We've gone beyond bad economic doctrine. We've even gone beyond self-interest and special interests. At this point we're talking about a state of mind that takes positive glee in inflicting further suffering on the already miserable.

The occasion for these observations is, as you may have guessed, the monstrous farm bill the House passed last week.

For decades, farm bills have had two major pieces. One piece offers subsidies to farmers; the other offers nutritional aid to Americans in distress, mainly in the form of food stamps (these days officially known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP).

Long ago, when subsidies helped many poor farmers, you could defend the whole package as a form of support for those in need. Over the years, however, the two pieces diverged. Farm subsidies became a fraud-ridden program that mainly benefits corporations and wealthy individuals. Meanwhile food stamps became a crucial part of the social safety net.

So House Republicans voted to maintain farm subsidies - at a higher level than either the Senate or the White House proposed - while eliminating food stamps from the bill.

To fully appreciate what just went down, listen to the rhetoric conservatives often use to justify eliminating safety-net programs. It goes something like this: "You're personally free to help the poor. But the government has no right to take people's money" - frequently, at this point, they add the words "at the point of a gun" - "and force them to give it to the poor."

It is, however, apparently perfectly OK to take people's money at the point of a gun and force them to give it to agribusinesses and the wealthy.

Now, some enemies of food stamps don't quote libertarian philosophy; they quote the Bible instead. Rep. Stephen Fincher of Tennessee, for example, cited the New Testament: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat." Sure enough, it turns out that Fincher has personally received millions in farm subsidies.

Given this awesome double standard - I don't think the word "hypocrisy" does it justice - it seems almost anticlimactic to

talk about facts and figures. But I guess we must.

So: Food stamp usage has indeed soared in recent years, with the percentage of the population receiving stamps rising from 8.7 in 2007 to 15.2 in the most recent data. There is, however, no mystery here. SNAP is supposed to help families in distress, and lately a lot of families have been in distress.

In fact, SNAP usage tends to track broad measures of unemployment, like U6, which includes the underemployed and workers who have temporarily given up active job search. And U6 more than doubled in the crisis, from about 8 percent before the Great Recession to 17 percent in early 2010. It's true that broad unemployment has since declined slightly, while food stamp numbers have continued to rise - but there's normally some lag in the relationship, and it's probably also true that some families have been forced to take food stamps by sharp cuts in unemployment benefits.

What about the theory, common on the right, that it's the other way around - that we have so much unemployment thanks to government programs that, in effect, pay people not to work? (Soup kitchens caused the Great Depression!) The basic answer is, you have to be kidding.

Do you really believe that Americans are living lives of leisure on \$134 a month, the average SNAP benefit?

Still, let's pretend to take this seriously. If employment is down because government aid is inducing people to stay home, reducing the labor force, then the law of supply and demand should apply: Withdrawing all those workers should be causing labor shortages and rising wages, especially among the low-paid workers most likely to receive aid. In reality, of course, wages are stagnant or declining - and that's especially true for the groups that benefit most from food stamps.

So what's going on here? Is it just racism? No doubt the old racist canards - like Ronald Reagan's image of the "strapping young buck" using food stamps to buy a T-bone steak - still have some traction. But these days almost half of food stamp recipients are non-Hispanic whites; in Tennessee, home of the Bible-quoting Fincher, the number is 63 percent. So it's not all about race.

What is it about, then? Somehow, one of our nation's two great parties has become infected by an almost pathological mean-spiritedness, a contempt for what CNBC's Rick Santelli, in the famous rant that launched the Tea Party, called "losers." If you're an American, and you're down on your luck, these people don't want to help; they want to give you an extra kick. I don't fully understand it, but it's a terrible thing to behold. □



## The House's Immigration Dilemma



ROSS DOUTHAT  
© 2013 New York Times

The first thing you need to know about the House Republican view of immigration reform, the fate of which now rests with John Boehner's restive caucus, is that there is no single House Republican view of immigration reform. Instead, as the Democrats have come to march in lock step on the issue - dropping the old union-populist skepticism of low-wage immigration in favor of liberal cosmopolitanism and Hispanic interest-group pandering - many of the country's varying, conflicting opinions have ended up crowded inside the Republican Party's tent.

So there are Republicans who would happily vote for the Senate bill as is, no questions asked, and Republicans who might never vote for a bill that contains the words "comprehensive" and "reform," let alone "immigration." There are law-and-order Republicans who care only about border security and E-Verify, pro-business Republicans seeking new guest-worker programs and religious-conservative Republicans for whom amnesty is a humanitarian cause. There are libertarian Republicans who believe "the more, the better" is the only answer on immigration policy and communitarian Republicans who worry about the impact on wages, assimilation and cultural cohesion.

There are calculating, self-interested Republicans who think immigration reform will save their party from extinction, and calculating, self-interested Republicans who worry that it will create millions of new Democratic voters.

This diversity of views makes it difficult to game out exactly how the House might proceed on the issue. But right now, there seem to be two directions that Republicans could ultimately take.

The first is a kind of lowest-common-denominator approach suggested by the majority leader, Eric Cantor. It would advance two ideas that command broad Republican support - more spending on border security and more visas for high-skilled immigrants - alongside an idea many Republican representatives opposed in the past but seem to be warming to right now: a new version of the Dream Act, which would offer citizenship to illegal immigrants who arrived as children. This combination would probably poll well, minimize intra-Republican divisions and focus on the policy area, high-skilled immigration, where there is the strongest consensus about the benefits to the nation. It would also vindicate the Republican Party's (often notional) commitment to offering incremental alternatives to bloated liberal bills. But such incrementalism would punt on the question of how to handle the bulk of the existing illegal-immigrant population, and thus wouldn't be anything like the game changer sought by many Republican strategists worried about the Hispanic vote. And politically, it would have been much more clever months ago, before the Senate bill raised expectations for how sweeping a reform should be. In the shadow of Rubio-Schumer, a House that passed incremental bills and then refused to negotiate its way to something bigger might well receive the same kind of "do nothing" coverage as a House that did nothing at all.

Hence the (quiet, for now) appeal of the second option, mentioned last week by The Washington Post's Ezra Klein and The Huffington Post's Jon Ward, in which the House would find a way to go along with a version of amnesty that either didn't include the promise of citizenship

or made the path so long and arduous that few immigrants would take it.

To its supporters, this combination would deliver illegal immigrants the security and stability that pro-legalization activists are seeking, without running afoul of either the principled Republican desire to avoid rewarding people who have broken America's laws, or the more cynical Republican desire not to have the newly legalized showing up to vote for Democrats.

But it, too, would come at a cost. We're living through an era of stratification, a period of mass unemployment, an economic "recovery" in which working-class wages aren't actually recovering. This is a strange climate in which to create - and then augment, via guest-worker programs - a permanent tier of explicitly second-class, mostly low-skilled residents, deliberately curtail their political leverage and then ask low-wage native workers to compete with them for jobs.

And it's a particularly strange climate for a Republican Party struggling to shed its "party of the rich" label to identify with such a policy, and give up one of the few issues where it has some credibility with working-class voters.

The party faces risks whatever it does: Killing comprehensive reform might further alienate Hispanics, as the conventional wisdom has it, but then again going along with Charles Schumer and a flood of corporate money might exacerbate the kind of "who's looking out for me?" disaffection that kept many conservative-tilting, economically strapped voters from the polls in 2012. But a clever-sounding deal that legalizes immigrants as laborers but not as citizens risks disaster on both fronts: rejection by Hispanics as insufficient and ultimately insulting, and rejection by many of America's tired, poor, huddled workers as another example of the political class's indifference to their fate. □



# Netflix roils nerves in a crowded race for Emmys

**BILL CARTER**

© 2013 New York Times

The nominations for the Emmy Awards will be announced Thursday in Los Angeles, and it is widely expected that, for the first time, the headlines will be all about Netflix.

Two programs created for that Internet streaming service, the drama "House of Cards" and the comedy "Arrested Development," are leading contenders for best actor or best program nominations that formerly

John Landgraf, the chairman of the cable network FX, who has been critical of Netflix's practice of not disclosing how many people are watching its programs, acknowledged that "House of Cards" seemed likely to grab one of the six nominations for best drama, potentially knocking out one of his network's strong candidates, like "Justified" or "The Americans."

Landgraf said FX aggressively pursues Emmy nomi-

dence than winning Emmys drives up viewership (just ask Tina Fey about "30 Rock"), creators and networks still see them as validation. Netflix clearly does; it campaigned ardently for nominations this year, which including planting lawn signs in Los Angeles neighborhoods presumed to be dense with members of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

With everyone from Amazon to YouTube to Condé Nast having announced

slowly eroded the hegemony broadcast networks had enjoyed at the Emmys, leading to cable domination in certain categories, especially drama.

Leverence recalled how the series creator Steven Bochco argued that he faced limitations on content in his drama "NYPD Blue" that "The Sopranos" never had to deal with.

"The Bochco argument was very compelling," Leverence said. "It was so compelling, he made poor

air and need to attract as large an audience as possible." Leverence said the Emmys were "about excellence." But he agreed that the mix of shows is important to the academy, which is eager to generate strong ratings for its annual awards broadcast. After attracting more than 16 million viewers in 2006 - coincidentally, the last time broadcast shows won both best drama ("24") and best comedy ("The Office") - the show has not surpassed 13.5 million viewers and has fallen below 13 million three times. Last year, it hit a record low among the viewers most prized by broadcast advertisers, those between the ages of 18 and 49.

Leverence acknowledged that the awards show risked losing viewers "when they are not going to have any rooting interest" because the nominated shows were seen only through streaming services or websites. One potential answer would be to expand the number of nominees in the categories with hordes of eligible entrants. Four years ago, the academy expanded nominees in the two major categories to six from five. Leverence said that academy rules were fluid and that some other adjustments might be made.

The film industry, in search of a way to include movies that attracted big crowds after "The Dark Knight" was snubbed in 2009, expanded the number of best picture nominees to 10 the next year. Leverence said his awards committee had had some discussion about expanding the pool of nominees. However, he said, "There is always a hesitation about award inflation." Similarly, he said that another suggestion - separating categories either by traditional distribution versus Internet or advertiser-supported channels versus subscription services like Netflix - would threaten to devalue the trophy. "Tiering is degrading," he said. "The best should be the best." □



**A lawn sign for the Netflix series "House of Cards" in Los Angeles, July 16, 2013. The nominations for the Emmy Awards will be announced in Los Angeles on Thursday, and it is widely expected that for the first time, the headlines will be all about Netflix.**

(Emily Berl/The New York Times)

were the province of shows produced for broadcast and cable networks. And if they are nominated, it would be the first time that slots in the most avidly pursued categories went to programs not specifically produced for the medium of television.

The reaction to this development inside the traditional television business has been largely muted, with many executives suggesting that only the quality of the work is important. But to some, this is a moment reminiscent of the days when cable channels like HBO first began to challenge the dominance of broadcast networks like ABC.

nations, but he added, "It would be the height of bad sportsmanship to seek to keep a show out because it comes from a different distribution system." Another senior broadcast network executive said, "It's hard to say anything about the Netflix thing, because we only sound defensive or whiny." The executive insisted on anonymity because of a reluctance to criticize the inclusion of streaming services publicly.

More than anything else, Netflix's arrival in the Emmy mix is disquieting to some broadcast and cable executives because it is probably only the beginning. Although there is little evi-

rosters of planned programs this spring, the prospect of a glut of new nominees is on the horizon. Already the number of eligible dramas under consideration has leapt to 105, from 87 last year. One academy member said this year's nominating ballot "was mind-boggling; it was like an SAT test."

John Leverence, the academy's senior vice president for awards, said of the proliferation, "I think this is a parallel situation to what happened with cable 20 years ago."

In 1988 the academy opened its doors to cable entries, and within a few years, led by "The Sopranos," cable networks had

Dennis Franz take his pants off." Laughing at the memory, he added, "Nobody liked that solution."

The issue of freedom versus limits persists. Yet Preston Beckman, who was the top program scheduler at NBC and later at Fox, said the inclusion of Netflix and other streaming sites was "a big deal, but not a game changer."

Since pay cable channels already are included in the Emmys, "what does it matter if two shows from some other source are included?" he said. "The issue isn't so much these streaming sites as the fact that you have five entities that are constrained in terms of what they can put on the